The labyrinth of magic

MAGI マギ シンドバッドの冒険

13

原作 大高忍　漫画 大寺義史

URA SUNDAY COMICS

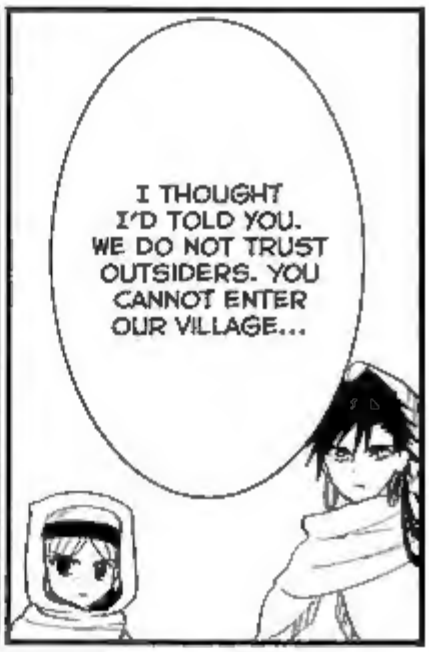
MASRUR...
.....
THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT YOU JUST CAN'T ACCEPT UNTIL YOU SEE THEM FOR YOURSELF... LET HIM GO.
NO, WAIT.
I'LL GO GET HIM. IF WE JUST LET HIM GO...

I'LL... GO CHECK ON HIM.
... UMM...
SIN...
I CAN'T JUST LEAVE HIM BE... IN THAT STATE OF MIND.
SHARR-KAN...

BESIDES, WE SHOULD...
LET'S LEAVE MASRUR TO HIM.

WHAT... WAS THERE SOMETHING ELSE?

HMPH... THEN MAKE IT QUICK...
... YES. I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL.


I THOUGHT I'D TOLD YOU. WE DO NOT TRUST OUTSIDERS. YOU CANNOT ENTER OUR VILLAGE...

I'LL CHANGE THE WORLD'S INJUSTICES.
I WANT TO CHANGE THIS.
SLAVE HUNTING, PERSECUTION...
NOW THAT I KNOW THE TRUTH OF HOW THE TORRAN PEOPLE HAVE BEEN TREATED, I CAN'T JUST OVERLOOK IT.

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!

MASRUR...
I'M SURE YOU'RE UPSET RIGHT NOW, BUT...

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I'M CERTAIN THAT YOU'LL FIND YOUR PEOPLE SOMEDAY... SO!

GOOD, I FINALLY FOUND HIM...
FANALIS REALLY ARE AMAZING... I COULDN'T CATCH UP TO HIM AT ALL.

THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.

... WHAT? YOU FOLLOWED ME?

DON'T SAY... THAT IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.

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AND... HELIOHAPT IS A COUNTRY THAT USES SLAVES.
BEFORE NOW, I NEVER THOUGHT TO QUESTION THE PRACTICE OF SLAVERY.
I... MEDICINE FROM MY OWN COUNTRY WAS USED TO HELP SLAVE TRADERS...
I NEVER KNEW.
BUT AFTER HEARING WHAT THE TORRAN CHIEF SAID...
I DON'T THINK ANY GROUP OF PEOPLE SHOULD BE FORCED INTO SLAVERY.
SOMETHING LIKE THAT... IS JUST ONE PERSON TAKING AWAY ANOTHER'S HAPPINESS IN ORDER TO EXPLOIT THEM.
WE SHOULDN'T ALLOW SOMETHING SO TRAGIC...
IT'S... NOT RIGHT...

... I HEARD ABOUT YOU FROM SINBAD.
YOU NEVER GOT TO SEE THE OUTSIDE WORLD, AND YOU WERE SEPARATED FROM YOUR PEOPLE AND YOUR FAMILY.
YOU WERE A SLAVE FORCED TO FIGHT AS A GLADIATOR.
YOU WERE ALWAYS ALONE...
... DON'T ACT LIKE YOU UNDERSTAND.
TO HAVE IT ALL TURN OUT LIKE THIS MUST BE PAINFUL.
I ALSO HEARD THAT YOU'VE ACTIVELY CONTRIBUTED TO THIS JOURNEY.

I... HAVE NOTHING.

MY PEOPLE, MY FAMILY...

THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY FANALIS HERE.

I'M ALONE.

BY SOMEONE WHO CAN'T DO ANYTHING FOR HIMSELF...

I DON'T WANT TO BE PITIED

THAT'S...

SOMETHING A ROYAL... WITH A COUNTRY AND A FAMILY TO RETURN TO... WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND.

CUT IT OUT
ALREADY !!!
THAT YOU "HAVE NOTHING"!!!
DON'T SAY
BUT
IT'S TRUE THAT WE'RE DIFFERENT PEOPLE. OUR BLOODLINES AND SITUATIONS ARE COMPLETELY UNALIKE.

BUT YOU WERE ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY SUCH AMAZING PEOPLE... YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE, AREN'T YOU?
I WAS ALWAYS ALONE.
I NO LONGER HAVE A COUNTRY TO RETURN TO. MY FAMILY IS GONE.
EVEN BEFORE THAT, THOUGH,
CALL THAT NOTHING...
EVERYTHING I DON'T HAVE... YOU...
DON'T

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... SOMEONE'S COMING. IT MIGHT BE A SURVIVOR FROM THE FANALIS VILLAGE...
HUH?
WHAT ...?
??
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THAT GUY...
HE NEVER LISTENS TO PEOPLE...
AH... MASRUR!

...SLAVE TRADER.
... HEY. DID WE REALLY GO THE RIGHT WAY? THERE'S NOTHING HERE.
WHAT THE HELL?!
YOU'RE SURE SHORT-TEMPERED.
WELL, WELL...
IF WE CAN CAPTURE ALL THOSE PEOPLE, WE'LL GET TO LIVE IN LUXURY FOR QUITE A WHILE.
AN ENTIRE VILLAGE ...
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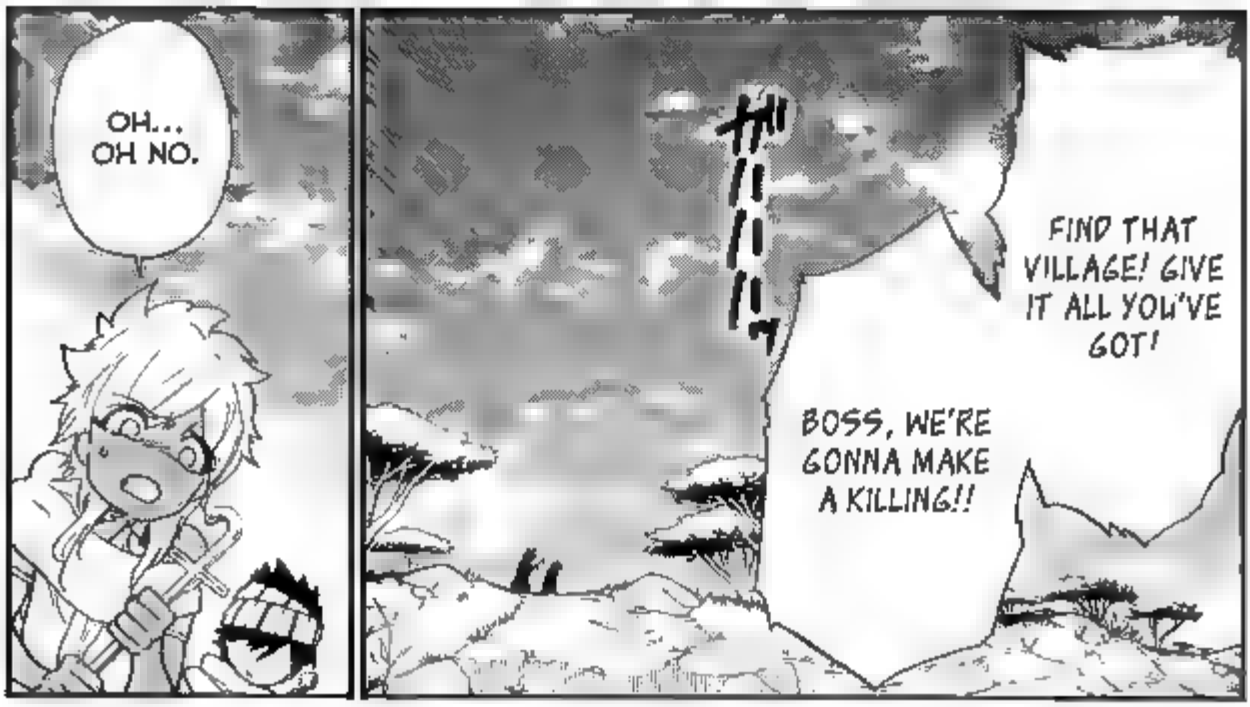
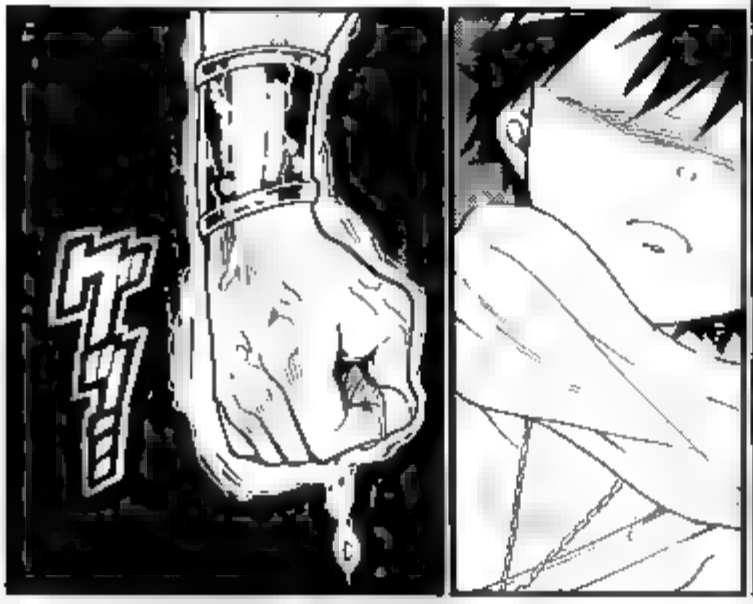
THE TORRAN VILLAGE IS DEFINITELY OUT HERE.
MY PREPARA-TIONS WERE PERFECT.


OH... OH NO.
FIND THAT VILLAGE! GIVE IT ALL YOU'VE GOT!
BOSS, WE'RE GONNA MAKE A KILLING!!

WE HAVE TO HURRY AND WARN EVERYONE. LET'S GO BACK, MASRUR!
AND THEY'RE LOOKING FOR THE TORRAN VILLAGE

IT'S STRANGE THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
THEY MUST BE SLAVE TRADERS!



THEY'RE SLAVE TRADERS.

THEY'RE HEADED FOR THE TORRAN VILLAGE...

WE HAVE TO HURRY AND TELL SINBAD...

THE TORRAN VILLAGE CHIEF...

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... IF WE GO NOW, WE'LL BE TOO LATE.

HUH?

I'LL... CRUSH THEM.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING..?
HUH? CRUSH THEM?!

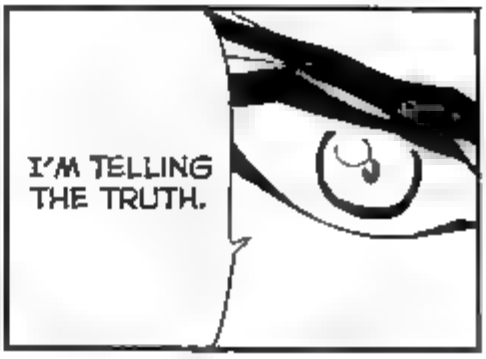
SLAVE TRADERS LIKE YOU.
I WON'T FORGIVE
BE CAREFUL!
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS KID?!
MASRUR ...
IT'S NO GOOD .. HE'S COMPLETELY...

OUT OF CONTROL!!
THAT RED HAIR...
YOU SAID... THAT YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

RIDICU-LOUS.
TO DO SO, I NEED YOUR HELP. FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR VILLAGE...
YOU'RE ONLY SAYING THAT TO DECEIVE US.

I WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD THAT CREA-TED SUCH ATROCITIES.
... YES. DISCRIM-NATION, PERSE-CUTION, WAR...

WE'VE ALREADY DECIDED NEVER TO TRUST AN OUTSIDER AGAIN!!
STOP!!


I'M TELLING THE TRUTH.

RATHER THAN A PEACEFUL EXISTENCE...BUT WHAT COULD YOU UNDERSTAND?!
WE HAVE BEEN FORCED TO LEAD A HARD LIFE OF OPPRESSION
WE'VE BEEN PERSE-CUTED,
LIED TO, AND HAD EVERYTHING TAKEN FROM US.

.....
SIN...
ENOUGH. WE'LL REMOVE YOU BY FORCE!!
I CAN NEVER FORGET THE DAYS I SPENT LIVING THAT NIGHTMARE.
NO FREEDOM, NO DIGNITY
...I DO UNDER-STAND.
A FORMER SLAVE.
I AM

THE INEQUALITIES OF THE WORLD THAT LED TO...
THIS WHOLE SYSTEM OF SLAVERY.
SO, I CANNOT FORGIVE...
AND IT'S NOT JUST ME.
THAT FANALIS BOY, MASRUR, WAS A SLAVE TOO.
I'LL CRUSH... ALL OF YOU!!
... COME ON.

I THOUGHT ALL OF THE FANALIS HAD BEEN HUNTED DOWN, BUT THERE ARE STILL SOME LEFT...
WELL, WELL. WHAT A SURPRISE.
スッ
ARE YOU ALONE? WHERE'S YOUR FAMILY?
YOU'D CERTAINLY FETCH A GOOD AMOUNT AS A SLAVE...
COME QUIETLY AND TOGETHER WE CAN SELL YOU FOR A HIGH PRICE.

grin
??
THE DRUG F-NALLY TOOK EFFECT, HUH?
I'LL NEVER BE CALLED THAT AGAIN...
I'M NOT A SLAVE ANYMORE...

THAT POISON SHOULD'VE BEEN STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE EFFECT IMMED.ATELY... WHAT A MONSTER
WE COATED THE TIPS OF OUR SWORDS WITH IT. I'M GLAD IT CAME IN HANDY.
THE POISON MADE IN HELIOHAPT.
WAIT!!
HE'LL BE MORE THAN ENOUGH. LET'S HURRY JP AND..
GET THE OTHERS UP!

I WON'T... LET YOU TAKE HIM.

NOW...

I DUNNO WHERE YOU CAME FROM, BUT...

Gahaha

Tsy

BRAT!!
YOU'RE IN THE WAY!
MY SWORD...!! WHAT THE HELL?!
THIS SWORD WAS ENTRUSTED TO ME BY MY FATHER. IT'S SPECIAL...
!!?

THIS DAMN BRAT...
YOUR SWORDS ARE NO MATCH FOR IT!
THESE SWORDS ARE COATED WITH POISON.
I CAN READ THEIR ATTACKS. THIS IS NOT A PROBLEM. AFTER ALL, EVEN I WAS TRAINED IN ROYAL SWORDPLAY
IF I CAN AVOID THE TIPS OF THEIR SWORDS, I'LL BE FINE.

SO WHY ...?!!
THIS BRAT... ISN'T A FANALIS...
THE ONE THING I WAS ALLOWED TO DO, DESPITE MY LACK OF FREEDOM...
ROYAL SWORD-PLAY.

I'LL PROTECT HIM.
IT'S A FORM OF SWORDPLAY THAT MAKES USE OF YOUR OPPONENT'S OPENINGS.
HELIOHAPT'S SWORDPLAY STYLE IS KNOWN AS THE CRAWLING SWORD.
WITH MY...
SWORDS-MANSHIP!!

WHAT THE HELL?!
HE'S JUST A DAMN BRAT...

WE CAN'T!! HE'S USING SOME WEIRD STYLE OF SWORDSMANSHIP WE CAN'T EVEN GET CLOSE TO HIM!!

SURROUND HIM!!
YOUR OPPONENT IS A CHILD!! GET HIM!

CHE!
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, BOSS?!

I CAN TAKE CARE OF THEM ON MY OWN!!
IF I KEEP THIS UP,

MY SWORDS-MANSHIP CAN GET PAST THEM!!

I CAN DO THIS...

IT'LL BE FINE. LOOK AT YOUR OPPONENT.
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
OH DEAR... WHY DON'T YOU TRY USING YOUR HEAD A LITTLE?
HE'S GOT SOME TALENT, BUT HE'S STILL ONLY A CHILD. .
IF HE KEEPS F GHTING, SOONER OR LATER ..

MOVING?
HE'S STOPPED ...
!?
!
NATURALLY.
FACED WITH THIS MANY OPPONENTS, HE'LL QUICKLY EXHAUST HIMSELF.
IT SEEMS HE LACKS ACTUAL FIGHTING EXPERIENCE... AND THIS MUST BE THE LIMIT OF HIS STAMINA.
THE CHILD IS FIGHTING WHILE TRYING TO DEFEND THE FANALIS BEHIND HIM...

IN THAT CASE, THIS WILL BE QUICK.
IF WE KILL THIS BRAT, RIGHT?!
IT'S ALL RIGHT...
SINCE YOU ONLY WANT THE FANALIS,
ハァ～
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MY LEGS... WON'T MOVE!!
OH NO!

THAT POISON SHOULD HAVE IMMOBILIZED YOU. SO HOW...?!!
MAS-RUR?!
!!?

!!!
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POISON... YOU MEAN THIS?
I STILL FEEL A LITTLE NUMB, BUT...
IT'S NOT A PROBLEM.
HMPH... NOT BAD.
YOU MONSTER.
HE BIT HIS OWN ARMS SO THAT THE POISON WOULD LEAVE HIS SYSTEM AS HE BLED?!

OH WELL. THANKS TO YOU, MY STRENGTH'S RETURNED,
MAYBE ...
MAYBE A LITTLE BLOOD LOSS HELPED YOU COOL OFF A BIT, HUH?
SO NOW...
LET'S DEFEAT THESE GUYS!!!

THAT IS UNMISTAKABLY A SCAR LEFT BY A SLAVE COLLAR...
I SEE...

HE'S REGAINED HIS FREEDOM NOW,
BUT HE WAS ONCE SO BRAINWASHED THAT HE'D BEGUN TO LOSE HIS SENSE OF SELF. .
SO THAT MEANS YOU REALLY...
YES.
OUR MASTER FELL FROM HIS LIFE AS THE HEAD OF A TRADING COMPANY INTO A LIFE OF SLAVERY.
THOSE LAST DAYS AND THE CRUELTY OF THAT FATE...
HOW IT FELT TO BE ONE OF MANY USED ONLY TO SERVE THE WHIMS OF THE FEW...
I
LEARNED A LOT DURING MY TIME AS A SLAVE.
THAT'S WHY...
KNOWING HOW IT FEELS FIRST HAND, I CAN'T JUST TURN A BLIND EYE.

I WANT TO CHANGE THIS WORLD

WHERE PEOPLE TRAMPLE OTHERS UNDERFOOT.

I WANT TO SAVE THOSE WHO ARE SUFFERING...

WHAT'S THAT COMMOTION? IT'S COMING FROM THAT DIRECTION...
CAPTURE COMPLETE!!
I'M QUITE CAPABLE WHEN I PUT MY MIND TO IT
I WAS WRONG... I SHOULDN'T HAVE
CALLED YOU WEAK...

THANKS... SHARRKAN.
YOU ALSO... KINDA SAVED ME...
YOU WEREN'T BAD... WITH A SWORD...

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED IF I WASN'T HERE TO HELP?
...BUT
REALLY... YOU DON'T LISTEN TO PEOPLE... AND JUST RUN OFF ON YOUR OWN.

...YOU...
ブチッ

I'VE NOTICED SOMETHING A LOT DURING OUR JOURNEY. .
MASRUR.. YOU KNOW,

NOW I UNDERSTAND.. THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE REALLY WANTED TO TELL YOU.

ISN'T YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS ME A LITTLE STRANGE?!!

I'M OLDER!!

YOU'RE YOUNGER!!

YOU DON'T GRASP THE FACT THAT I'M OLDER AND SHOULD BE YOUR MENTOR, DO YOU?!

8 years old

9 years old

WHAAAT ?!!

I SHOULD BE YOUR MENTOR ..

HUH. . BUT I WAS PART OF THE TRADING COMPANY BEFORE YOU, SO. .

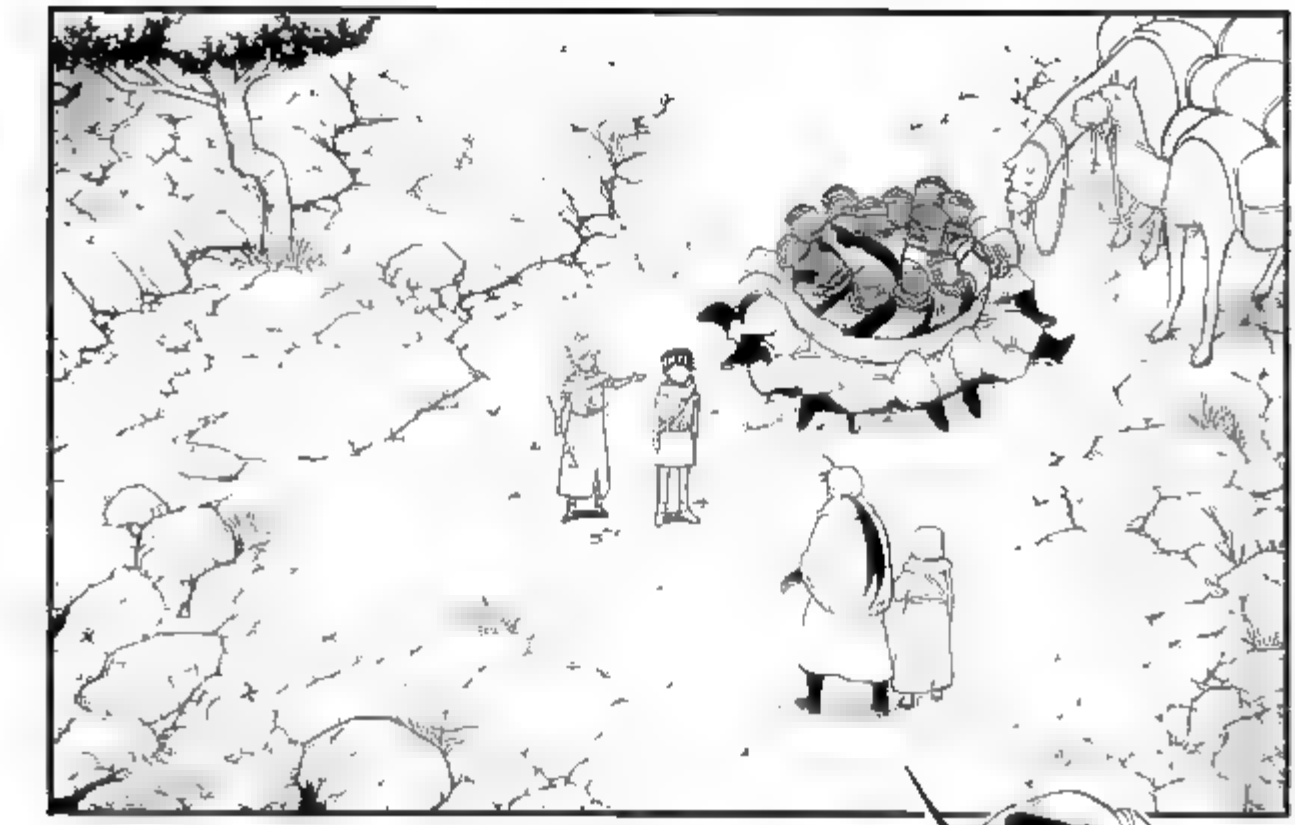
THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS!! PEOPLE ARE SUPPOSED TO SHOW AT LEAST SOME RESPECT TO THEIR ELDERS!!

AND YOU NEVER PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT I SAY! AND I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU POKING FUN AT ME!!

SINCE OUR VERY FIRST MEETING, YOU'VE BEEN USING SUCH INFORMAL LANGUAGE AND ADDRESSING ME RUDELY.

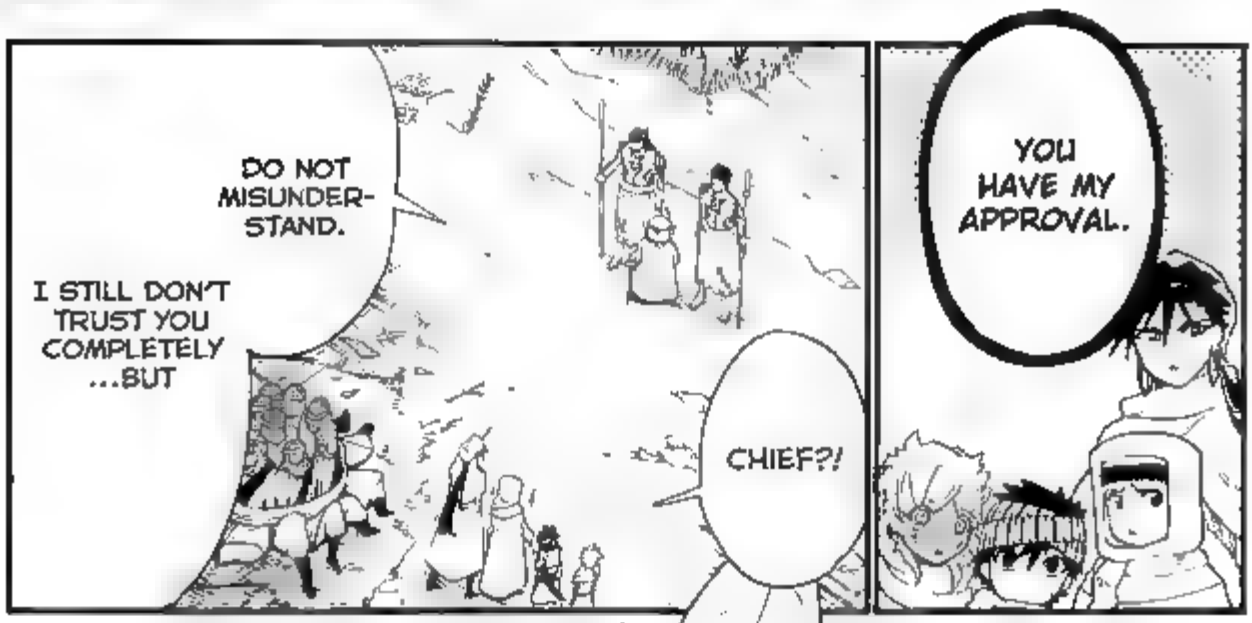
HUH...
GOT IT?
MENTOR SHARRKAN ...?
MENTOR SHARRKAN.
YOU SHOULD ADDRESS ME AS YOUR MENTOR.

WHAT ARE THOSE TWO DOING?
ガサガサ
UMM. I THINK I SHOULD PROBABLY STOP MY ARMS FROM BLEEDING SOON..
YES, THAT'S IT!! NOW YOU JUST NEED TO WORK ON YOUR ATTITUDE AND START SPEAKING MORE POLITELY!
...WELL, IT'S ALL GOOD IF THEY'RE SAFE, RIGHT...?
Although they do look a little beat up
Umm could you let go please?
Trying to change the subject? That's so like you
SOMEHOW... HE HASN'T CHANGED AT ALL, HAS HE?



WHAT... HAPPENED HERE?
AH... TORRAN VILLAGE CHIEF!
THESE PEOPLE ARE SLAVE TRADERS.
THEIR TARGET WAS YOUR VILLAGE, BUT WE'VE CAPTURED THEM.
NOW THE TORRAN PEOPLE WILL BE SAFE!
WE WON'T STAND BY
AND LET A TRAGEDY LIKE SLAVE TRADING OCCUR..... !!

.....
...WHAT A STRANGE GROUP OF PEOPLE...
EVEN THESE SMALL CHILDREN FOUGHT FOR US...
As long as you're all right that's what matters!
All by yourselves? Good job
That's not good. You're all beat up!


DO NOT MISUNDER-STAND.
I STILL DON'T TRUST YOU COMPLETELY ...BUT
CHIEF?!
YOU HAVE MY APPROVAL.

YES... I'VE GOT A FEELING ABOUT YOU.
YOU ARE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER OUTSIDERS...

THANK YOU... VERY MUCH!
?

LET'S GO, MASRUR...

Come on
THE SUN IS SETTING. YOU MAY STAY IN THE VILLAGE TONIGHT.

THE DARK CONTINENT...
THE LAND WHERE MY PEOPLE ONCE LIVED...
I... MAY NEVER SET FOOT HERE AGAIN.....

The next day
GOODBYE, HOMELAND OF THE FANALIS...
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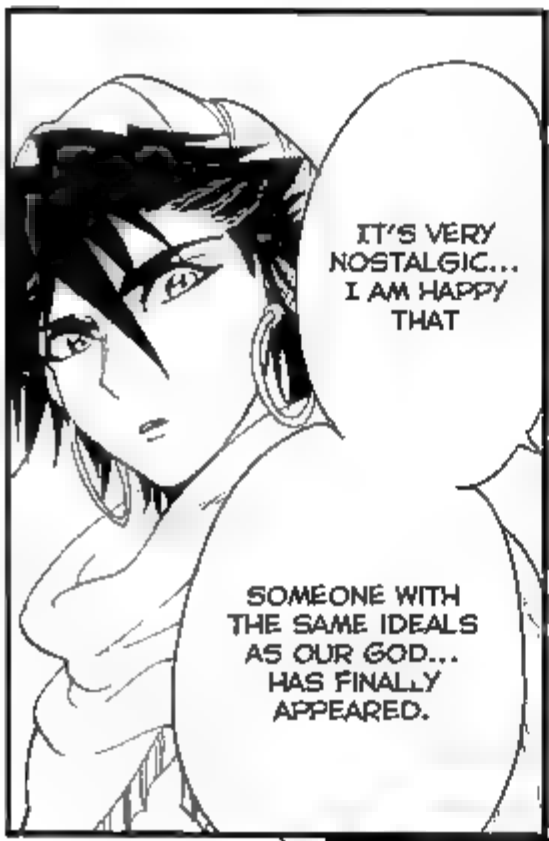
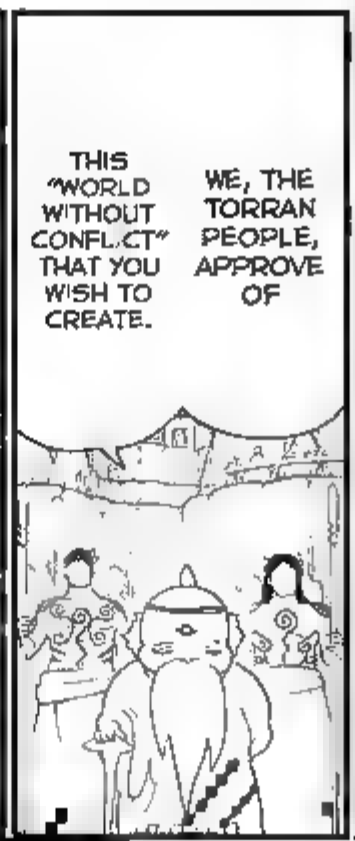
PEOPLE OF THE TORRAN VILLAGE, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HELP.

...BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE THEM FOR US TO DEAL WITH?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU ARE THE ONES WHO HELPED US.
I'LL LEAVE THEIR PUNISHMENT UP TO YOU.
IT WAS YOUR LIVES THEY WERE AFTER.
... YES.
THEY REQUIRE AN APPROPRIATE PUNISHMENT.
...I UNDER-STAND.


IT'S VERY NOSTALGIC... I AM HAPPY THAT
SOMEONE WITH THE SAME IDEALS AS OUR GOD... HAS FINALLY APPEARED.


THIS "WORLD WITHOUT CONFLICT" THAT YOU WISH TO CREATE.
WE, THE TORRAN PEOPLE, APPROVE OF

SINBAD.

ONLY, IT SEEMS TO BE BUT AN ANCIENT LEGEND... AND THE NAME OF THAT GOD HAS BEEN LOST OVER TIME...
WE LEARNED ABOUT HIM FROM THE KNIGHT KING OF SASAN.

TO HAVE FORGOTTEN HIS NAME...
I SEE... SO THOSE MEMORIES HAVE FADED TO THAT EXTENT IN THE WORLD OUTSIDE OUR VILLAGE...

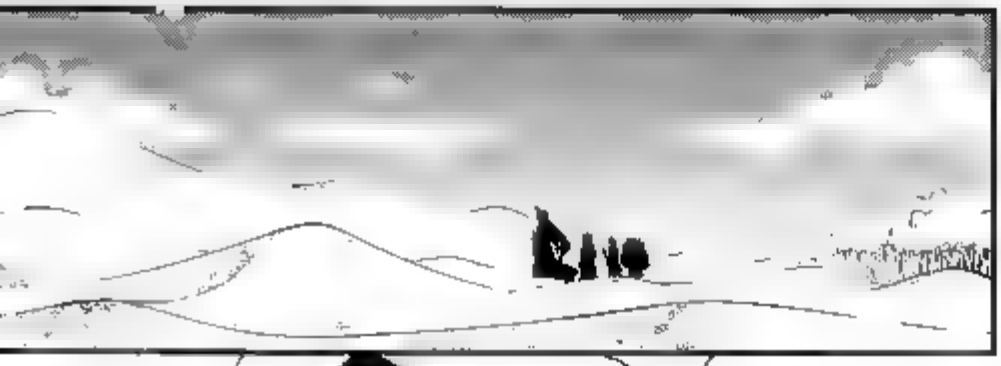
GOD...
COULD YOU BE REFERRING TO THE ALMIGHTY RULER WHO ONCE CREATED AN ACTUAL UTOPIA?
OH? YOU'RE QUITE KNOWLEDGEABLE.

THE ONE AND ONLY "GOD"...
HE WAS THE GREAT KING THAT RULED "ALMA TORRAN."
WE STILL REMEMBER THE NAME OF THAT GOD.
OUR LANGUAGE IS JUST ONE SUCH ARTIFACT
THE TORRAN PEOPLE POSSESS A VAST LIBRARY OF BOOKS AND LITHOGRAPHS HANDED DOWN FROM ANCIENT TIMES.
IS THAT NOT THE CASE HERE?
KING SOLOMON...!!

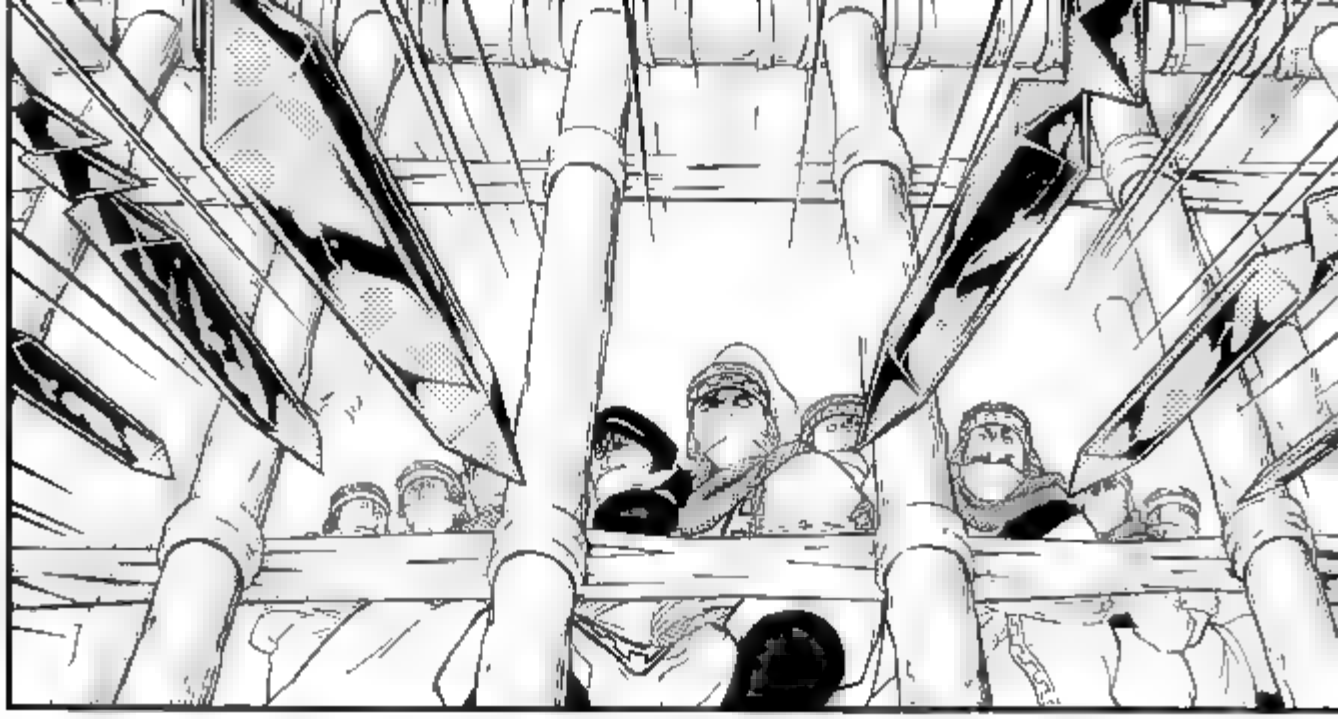
SOLOMON ...?
KING
I'M GLAD... THAT WE COULD LEARN HIS NAME...
...THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

YES... THANK YOU.

WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ASSIST AT YOUR REQUEST.
IF YOU'RE CURIOUS, YOU'RE WELCOME TO RETURN HERE TO INVESTIGATE.



.....
IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE THEY'D BE HANDED OVER TO OFFICIALS, SO WHAT ABOUT THEIR PUNISHMENT...?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT... IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU.
UMM... JA'FAR,
WHAT'LL HAPPEN TO THOSE SLAVE TRADERS WE CAUGHT?



WE CANNOT ALLOW YOU TO LEAVE...
SINCE YOU NOW KNOW THE LOCATION OF OUR VILLAGE,

KILL THEM!

THE WORLD IS STILL FULL OF INJUSTICE.

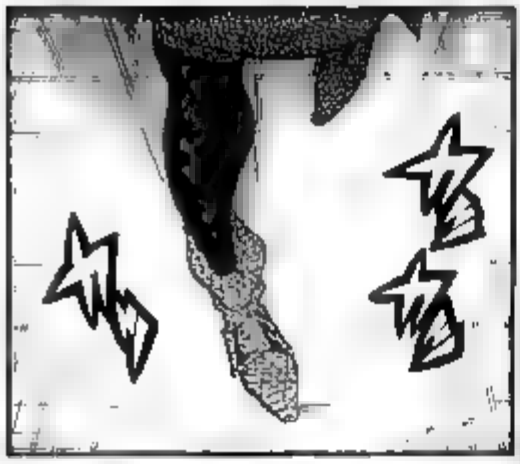
I WON'T FORGIVE THAT.

INNOCENT PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING, HUNTED DOWN, AND TREATED AS COMMODITIES...

WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS...!!

I HAVE TO CHANGE IT...

Reim territory, Katargo
...NOW, LET'S HEAD BACK TO BALBADD.
YEAH. IT'S TIME TO LEAVE THE DARK CONTINENT.

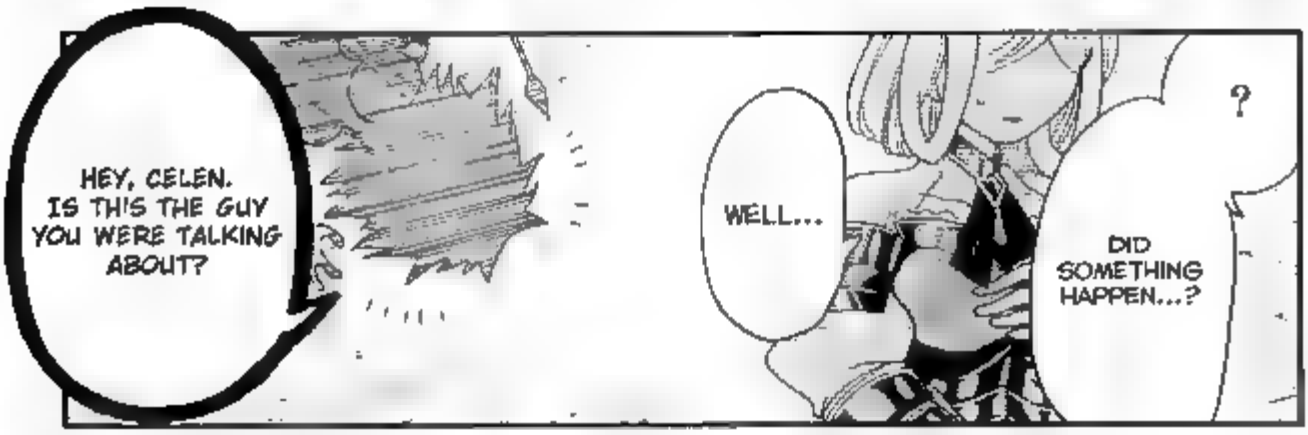


...ME, TOO.
There are so many strangers.
UNFORTUNATELY, WE WEREN'T ABLE TO FIND LAND TO BUILD OUR COUNTRY ON, BUT I'M STILL GLAD WE CAME..

YOU SURE TOOK YOUR TIME, SINBAD....

Why are you here..?!
CELEN-DINE?!
YOU GUYS!!
WE'RE HERE, TOO.
どろどろ

ON TOP OF THAT, THERE'S BEEN A LOT GOING ON HERE...
.....
BESIDES, IT'S MORE ECONOMICAL TO TAKE ONE SHIP BACK TOGETHER INSTEAD OF TWO. WE'RE SAVING MONEY.
IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL FOR US TO WAIT FOR YOU.
BUT WHY... YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ON YOUR WAY BACK TO BALBADD ALREADY.


HEY, CELEN. IS THIS THE GUY YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT?
WELL...
?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?

HE'S KINDA FLASHY, HUH?
HMM... SO HE'S SINBAD...

I'M JUDAR. NICE TO MEET YA.
WELL, I DON'T HATE HIS EXPRESSION.
Snail
SINBAD! YOU CAN'T! HE'S...
OW! OWWW!!
WHAT'S UP WITH THIS BRAT?! HE'S AWFULLY RUDE!!

IT'S A DEFENSIVE MANEUVER THAT REPELS ATTACKS..
A "BORG"?!
OUCH!!
BUT ONLY MAGICIANS SHOULD BE ABLE TO USE IT..
...HMPH. NATURALLY. JUST WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?
I'M A WORLD-CREATING MAGICIAN, POSSESSOR OF THE STRONGEST MAGOI...
I'M A MAGI.

THE LEGENDARY MAGICIANS THAT HAVE APPEARED DUR NG CRITICAL UNCTIONS IN HISTORY .
...WE DID HEAR ABOUT THEM IN ARTEMYRA.
MAGI ...?!
I'LL PROVE TO YOU THAT I'M A REAL MAGI.
YOU DON'T GET IT, HUH?
AND THIS K.D IS ONE OF THEM...?
ハッ
SHUT UP!!
DON'T! YOU CAN'T DO THAT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS

TO MAKE ME APPEAR IN MY TRUE FORM...
WELL, WELL... WHAT'S HAPPENED?

OH...
MAGI. SO IT WAS YOU.

WHERE DID YOU GET... SUCH A VAST QUANTITY OF MAGOI?
OVER HERE.
ZEPAR.

A MAGI IS A GREAT MAGICIAN, LOVED BY THE RUKH.
THAT'S RIGHT YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT "MAGI," DO YOU?
ALL DJINN GREATLY RESPECT THE MAGI AND OBEY THEIR WISHES.

ZEPAR IS BOWING DOWN TO THIS KID...?!

I CAN SEE HOW YOU MIGHT BE A BIT BEWILDERED. . AFTER ALL, YOU BECAME A DUNGEON CONQUEROR WITHOUT THE GUIDANCE OF A MAGI.
BUT HE IS DEFINITELY A TRUE MAGI.
Ahem
SO! YOU GET IT NOW?!
...BUT, MAGI...
THE RUKH AROUND YOU... COULD IT BE...
HMPH.
WELL, YOU'VE GOTTEN THE POINT ALREADY.
I'M A REAL MAGI.
.....
ニヤ...

AH, DON'T MISUNDERSTAND. I DON'T MEAN YOU. I MEAN THIS WOMAN HERE.
"KING" ...?
WHY IS A GREAT MAGI LIKE YOU HERE?
... AND?
I CAME TO SEE THE "KING."
THAT'S OBVIOUS.

.....
YOU KNOW THAT MAGI CREATE DUNGEONS TO CHOOSE KINGS, DON'T YOU?
CELEN CONQUERED ZEPAR'S DUNGEON, A DUNGEON I CREATED.
WHICH MEANS THIS WOMAN IS MY KING.

I'LL MAKE YOU QUEEN!!
JUST GIVE IT UP. LET'S GO TAKE BACK PARTHEVIA ALREADY.
WHAT? YOU'RE STILL COMPLAINING?
. THAT AGA.N? LISTEN, I HAVEN'T ACCEPTED YOUR OFFER YET.. !
W... WAIT A MINUTE...!!
WH . ?!
...BUT THAT'S JUST WHAT WE'LL DO.
YOU. DO YOU EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING?!
LET'S GO TAKE BACK PARTHEVIA ??

LOOK, I'M A MAGI.

IT'S YOU WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING.

HUH?!

...LISTEN TO ME. THINGS IN PARTHEVIA HAVE QUIETED DOWN THANKS TO THE CEASEFIRE TREATY...

YOU'RE ONLY A KID WHO DOESN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING...

I CAN FEEL A TERRIBLE AURA HANGING AROUND PARTHEVIA AS IT IS NOW... AND BESIDES, I'VE SEEN IT ALL MYSELF.

MAGI CAN FEEL THE WORLD'S ABNORMALITIES.

SHUT UP, FRECKLES.

THOSE WHO OPPOSE THE PEOPLE IN POWER ARE EITHER BRAIN-WASHED OR TURNED INTO SOME KINDA WEIRD MONSTER. IT'S TERRIBLE

IT'S SOMETHING LIKE A PURGE?

I don't really get it

THEIR CEASEFIRE TREATY IS ONLY FOR SHOW.

THEY'RE STILL INVADING NEARBY ISLANDS AND RAIDING VILLAGES WITHIN THE COUNTRY

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I TELL YOU, YOUR RESPONSE IS ALWAYS THE SAME. "I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT SINBAD."
THERE'S SOMETHING I REALLY WANT TO ASK...
SO
ALL THIS IS HAPPENING IN YOUR COUNTRY, BUT YOU'RE NOT GONNA DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT?
AND THIS WOMAN, ISN'T SHE A PARTHEVIAN PRINCESS?
THE BOSS,
SINBAD.

SO LET'S TAKE BACK PARTHEVIA.

YOU'LL HAVE MY HELP AS A MAGI.

SINBAD?

HOW ABOUT IT, CELENDINE?

119TH NIGHT:
A TURBULENT INVITATION
LET'S TAKE BACK PARTHEVIA.
CELEN-DINE...
SINBAD!

...JUDAR.
I'M THE MAGI JUDAR.
I'M NOT A BRAT.
LET'S SAY THAT PARTHEVIA REALLY IS GOING THROUGH AN INTERNAL PURGE LIKE YOU SAID.

SINBAD ...
.....
...HEY, BRAT.

BUT I ALSO CAN'T TRUST YOU IMMEDIATELY, EITHER.
IF THAT'S TRUE, I CAN'T JUST OVERLOOK IT.

THE MAGI I MET BEFORE COULD USE HIS MAGIC TO DO THINGS LIKE THAT.
A MAGI SHOULD BE ABLE TO FLY OR DISAPPEAR IN AN INSTANT.
YOU'RE A MAGI, RIGHT?

FINE, I'LL SHOW YOU!!
YOU'RE MAKING FUN OF ME!!
YOU'RE A GREAT MAGICIAN, AREN'T YOU? CAN'T YOU JUST TELEPORT US TO PARTHEVIA?
WATCH ME!! WITNESS THE POWER OF A REAL MAGI...

BUT NOW I DON'T WANNA.
...OR I THOUGHT I'D SHOW YOU,

AFTER ALL...
I DON'T REALLY NEED YOUR TRUST.

BUT YOU JUST SAID YOU WOULD!
HUH?!!
AND IT'S NOT MY JOB TO TAKE YOU ANYWHERE.
BUT IT'LL JUST WEAR ME OUT,

SOONER OR LATER, YOU'LL DEFINITELY REALIZE THAT YOU NEED MY POWER.

.. WHAT SHOULD WE DO, SIN?
NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, WE'RE DEALING WITH AN OPPONENT WHOSE NATURE WE CAN'T COMPREHEND.. IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS TO LET HIM BE.

BUT WE ALSO CAN'T OVERLOOK THE INFORMATION HE'S GIVEN US...
I DON'T KNOW WHO SENT HIM OR WHY HE WAS REALLY SENT HERE...

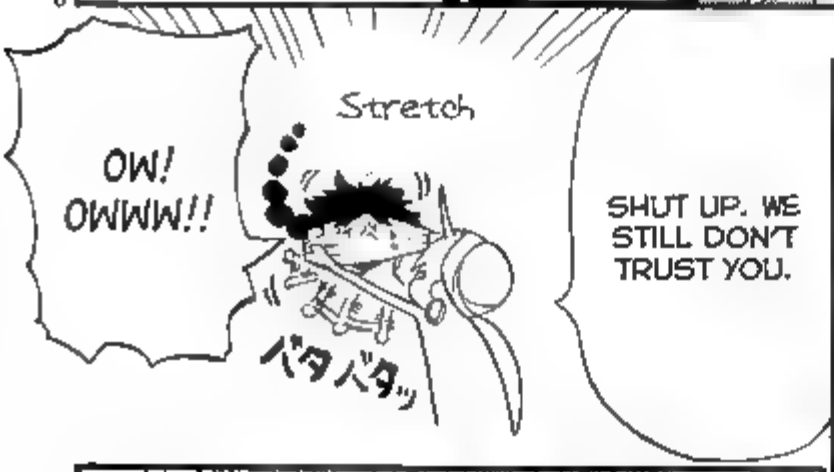
...WE CAN'T JUST IGNORE HIM.

IT WOULD BE BEST TO HAVE HIM STAY WHERE WE CAN KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
WE CAN USE HIM.

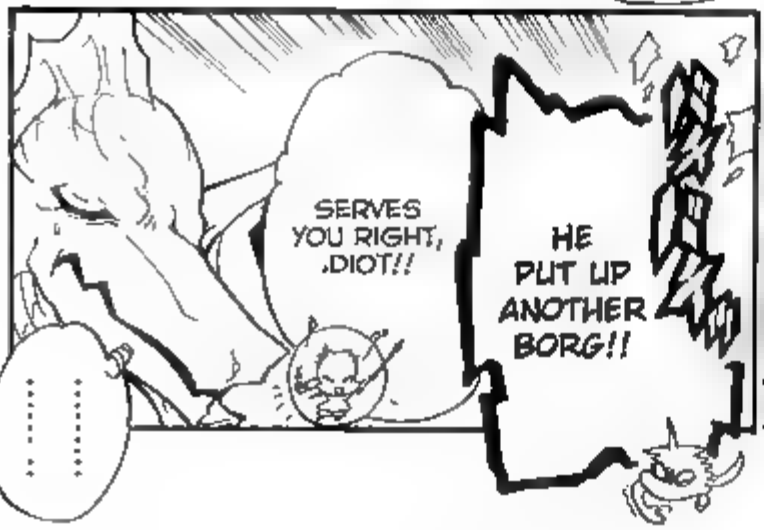
Zepar said so himself...
HE REALLY IS A MAGI, AFTER ALL.

PLEASE LOOK AFTER HIM.
AFTER ALL, HE CLAIMS TO BE YOUR MAGI...

SORRY, BUT WE'LL LEAVE HIM TO YOU.
CELENDINE.


OW! OWWW!!
Stretch
バタバタッ
SHUT UP. WE STILL DON'T TRUST YOU.

YOU SHOULD'VE JUST COME WITH ME IN THE FIRST PLACE.
I UNDERSTAND. IF ANYTHING HAPPENS, I'LL REPORT BACK TO YOU.
sigh


SERVES YOU RIGHT, IDIOT!!
HE PUT UP ANOTHER BORG!!
.....

WHAT IS IT DRAKON?

.....
IT'S ABOUT THAT CHILD...

SINBAD... DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
Let's go
Don't order me around woman

ABOUT HOW WE MANAGED TO FLEE FROM PARTHEVIA...
I'VE TOLD YOU ABOUT IT BEFORE.
ABOUT THE PURGE IN PARTHEVIA...?

...ABOUT JUDAR?

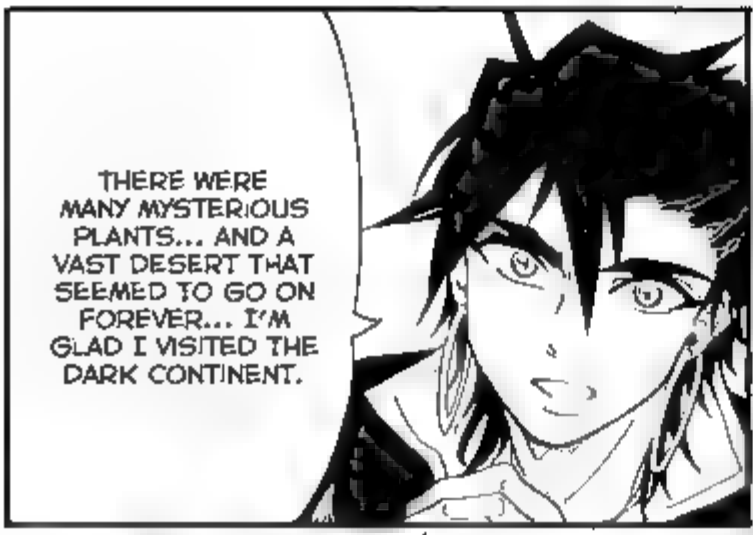
WE HAVE NO PROOF... BUT WHAT HE SAID IS MOST LIKELY THE TRUTH.

AT THE TIME, ONE OF THE FOUR HEAVENLY GENERALS TRANSFORMED INTO AN UNUSUAL FORM AND ATTACKED US.
THANKS TO MY OWN TRANSFORMATION CAUSED BY MY HOUSEHOLD VESSEL, I WAS ABLE TO PROTECT EVERYONE. WE ALL ESCAPED SAFELY, BUT...
THE PROBLEM IS ..
THIS INCIDENT IMPLIES THAT PARTHEVIA ALREADY HAS THE TECHNOLOGY TO FUSE DUNGEON CREATURES WITH HUMAN BEINGS.
WITH THAT TECHNOLOGY ....
IF THEY TURNED AN ENTIRE ARMY DIVISION... OR WORSE, ALL OF THE CITIZENS OF PARTHEVIA, INTO MONSTERS...

GAIN MILITARY PROWESS NEVER SEEN BEFORE!!

PARTHEVIA WOULD

Half a month later.
Balbadd Royal Palace.
...LET'S INVESTIGATE WHAT'S GOING ON IN PARTHEVIA.
...I SEE. YOU WEREN'T ABLE TO FIND LAND FOR YOUR COUNTRY ON THE DARK CONTINENT.
I'M SORRY IT WASN'T MORE HELPFUL.
SINBAD...


THERE WERE MANY MYSTERIOUS PLANTS... AND A VAST DESERT THAT SEEMED TO GO ON FOREVER... I'M GLAD I VISITED THE DARK CONTINENT.

IT WAS AN INTERESTING PLACE.
THAT'S OKAY.

HAHA.. YOU NEVER REST.
BESIDES, IT HELPED ME FIND NEW FRIENDS AND ESTABLISH NEW INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES!

...BY THE WAY, ABOUT THE MAGI YOU MENTIONED.
テレテレ
That too

SO I'M AFRAID I CANNOT TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT THAT CHILD.
I'VE ONLY EVER HEARD LEGENDS ABOUT MAGI....

YOU REALLY ARE INTERESTING. YOU'VE CERTAINLY DONE PLENTY TO FILL ANOTHER VOLUME WITH STORIES OF YOUR ADVENTURES.
ZEPAR... THE TORRAN VILLAGE...

I'VE HEARD THAT EVER SINCE THE CEASEFIRE TREATY, DOMES- T C AFFA.RS N PARTHEVIA HAVE STABIL ZED.
I HAVEN'T HEARD ANYTH NG ABOUT SOMETHING AS INHUMAN AS A PURGE GOING ON.
ABOUT THE SITUATION IN PARTHEVIA...
...I SEE.
IF YOU'RE THAT WORRIED ABOUT IT,
YOU SHOULD GO SEE HOW IT IS FOR YOURSELF.

AND AFTER LISTEN.NG TO YOUR STORY, I TH.NK IT MIGHT BE BENEFIC.AL TO VIS T PARTHEVIA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
うんうん
IT WOULDN'T BE UNUSUAL FOR ME TO VISIT PARTHEVIA ON A DIPLOMATIC TRIP.
AFTER REIM, PARTHEVIA IS ONE OF OUR LARGEST TRADING PARTNERS.
MENTOR .
SO, THAT'S HOW IT IS.
SINBAD?
WILL YOU ACCOMPANY ME AS PART OF MY ESCORT,
AND S NCE THE RUMORS OF A PURGE HINT AT POTENT.AL DANGER, I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE BEST OF THE BEST WITH ME.
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO PUT TOGETHER MY ESCORT FOR THE TRIP.

THE CURRENT EMPEROR OF THE PARTHEVIAN EMPIRE.
I'LL EVEN TAKE YOU TO MEET HIM...

THE EMPEROR OF PARTHEVIA.

I'LL TAKE YOU TO MEET

120TH NIGHT:

TO PARTHEVIA

...MEET THE EMPEROR...?!

I'LL PREPARE TO LEAVE IN A FEW DAYS.

WHAT WILL YOU DO, SINBAD?

YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK WITH HIM. AS LONG AS THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU,

YES... BUT YOU'LL ONLY BE PART OF MY ESCORT. IN OTHER WORDS, AS ONE OF MY ATTENDANTS,

YOU'LL ONLY BE ACCOMPANYING ME.

WHAT WILL YOU DO IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG?!?
THAT'S SO SOON... AND YOU'RE GOING ALONE?!
WE DEPART TOMORROW. I'LL ENTRUST THE COMPANY TO YOU, JA'FAR.

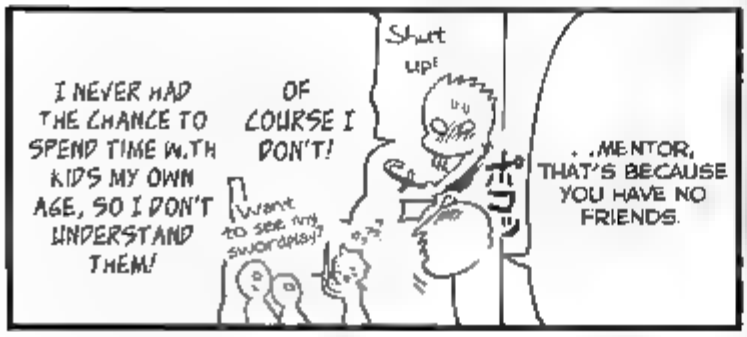
I WANT TO SEE WHAT'S GOING ON IN PARTHEVIA WITH MY OWN EYES... I'LL FIND OUT IF THERE'S REALLY SOME KIND OF PURGE GOING ON.
IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY, ISN'T IT?

I'LL BE FINE. NO ONE WILL TRY ANYTHING WITH KING RASHID THERE.
I'M GOING AS PART OF THE KING'S ESCORT, SO THERE'LL BE A WHOLE GROUP TRAVELING TOGETHER.

...CHE!
YOU'RE GOING TO PARTHEVIA AFTER ALL, HUH? I TOLD YA SO.
...WHAT?!
I UNDER-STAND THAT... BUT ..!
SO WHAT I TOLD YOU GOT YOU ALL WORRIED, HUH? THAT'S WHY WE SHOULD'VE JUST GONE WHEN I SAID SO.
TH... THIS ..!
WE STILL DON'T TRUST YOU, YOU KNOW!!

It's going to be lonely
.....
SWIPE
HEADING OUT ON ANOTHER TRIP.

BUT HE'S GOING, RIGHT? DON'T TRY TO HIDE IT, FRECKLES!
WH...!! STOP CALLING ME FRECKLES!


I NEVER HAD THE CHANCE TO SPEND TIME WITH KIDS MY OWN AGE, SO I DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM!
OF COURSE I DON'T!
Shut up!
Want to see my swordplay?
...MENTOR, THAT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVE NO FRIENDS.

AND IT'S A LITTLE SCARY...
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HE'S THINKING,
ギャギャ!!
ギャ!

...BUT,
THAT KID JUDAR ESPECIALLY...

YEAH.
...DON'T WORRY I'LL JUST OBSERVE THE CURRENT SITUATION. I WON'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT ANY OF YOU.
SINBAD
YOU'RE GOING TO PARTHEVIA, AREN'T YOU.. ?

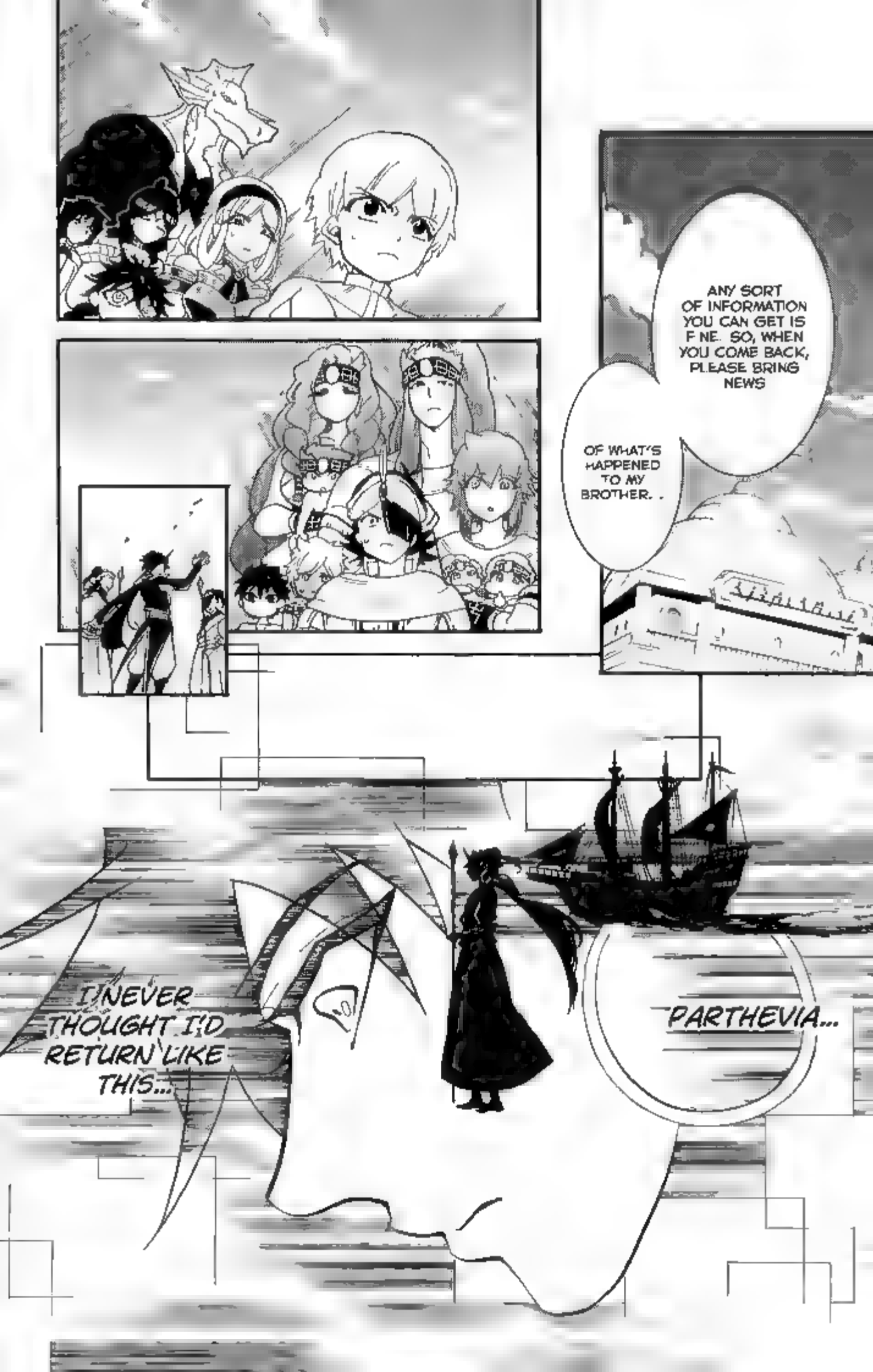
THAT MAN IS THERE SOMEWHERE... HE USED US.
HE'S A TERRIFYING MAN...
JUST BE CAREFUL WHILE YOU'RE THERE...
.. THAT'S NOT WHAT WORRIES ME, SINBAD..

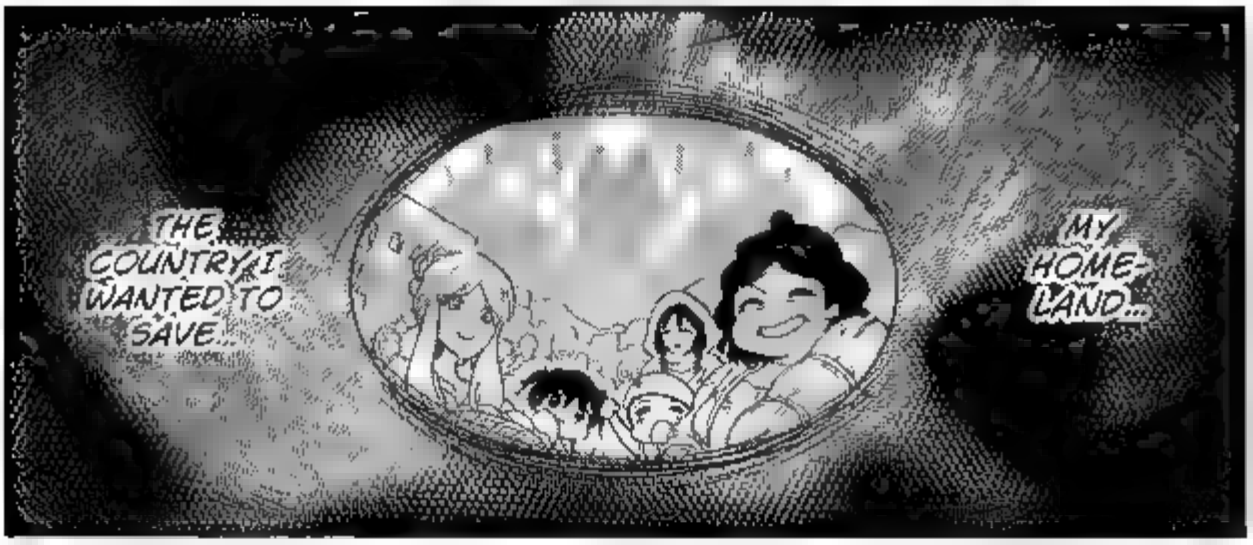
YOU MUST AVOID HIM AT ALL COSTS...

MY BROTHER ...

OH... ONE MORE THING..
?

.....
I UNDER-STAND.


ANY SORT OF INFORMATION YOU CAN GET IS F NE. SO, WHEN YOU COME BACK, PLEASE BRING NEWS
OF WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY BROTHER. .
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D RETURN LIKE THIS...
PARTHEVIA...

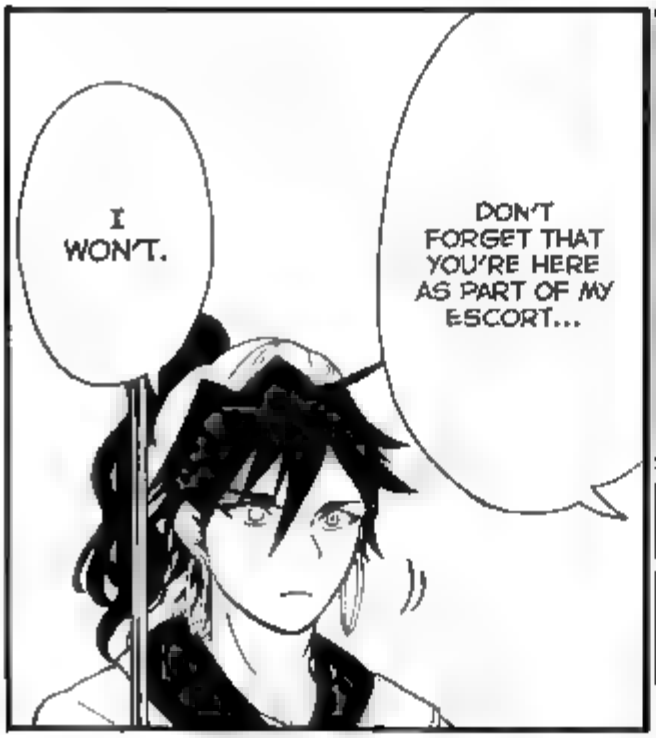

THE COUNTRY I WANTED TO SAVE...
MY HOME-LAND...

HOW DOES IT FEEL TO GET BACK TO YOUR HOME LAND?

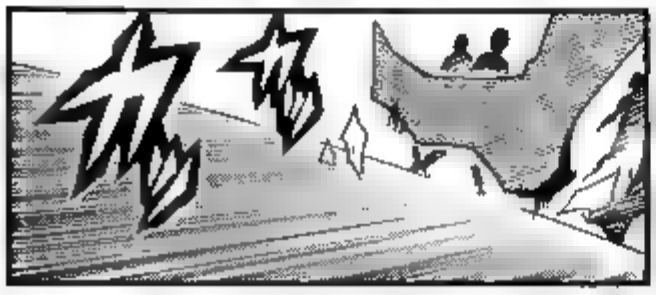
IT FEELS
NOSTALGIC I CAN TELL THAT MUCH.

TO BE HONEST I'M NOT SURE BUT

I SEE

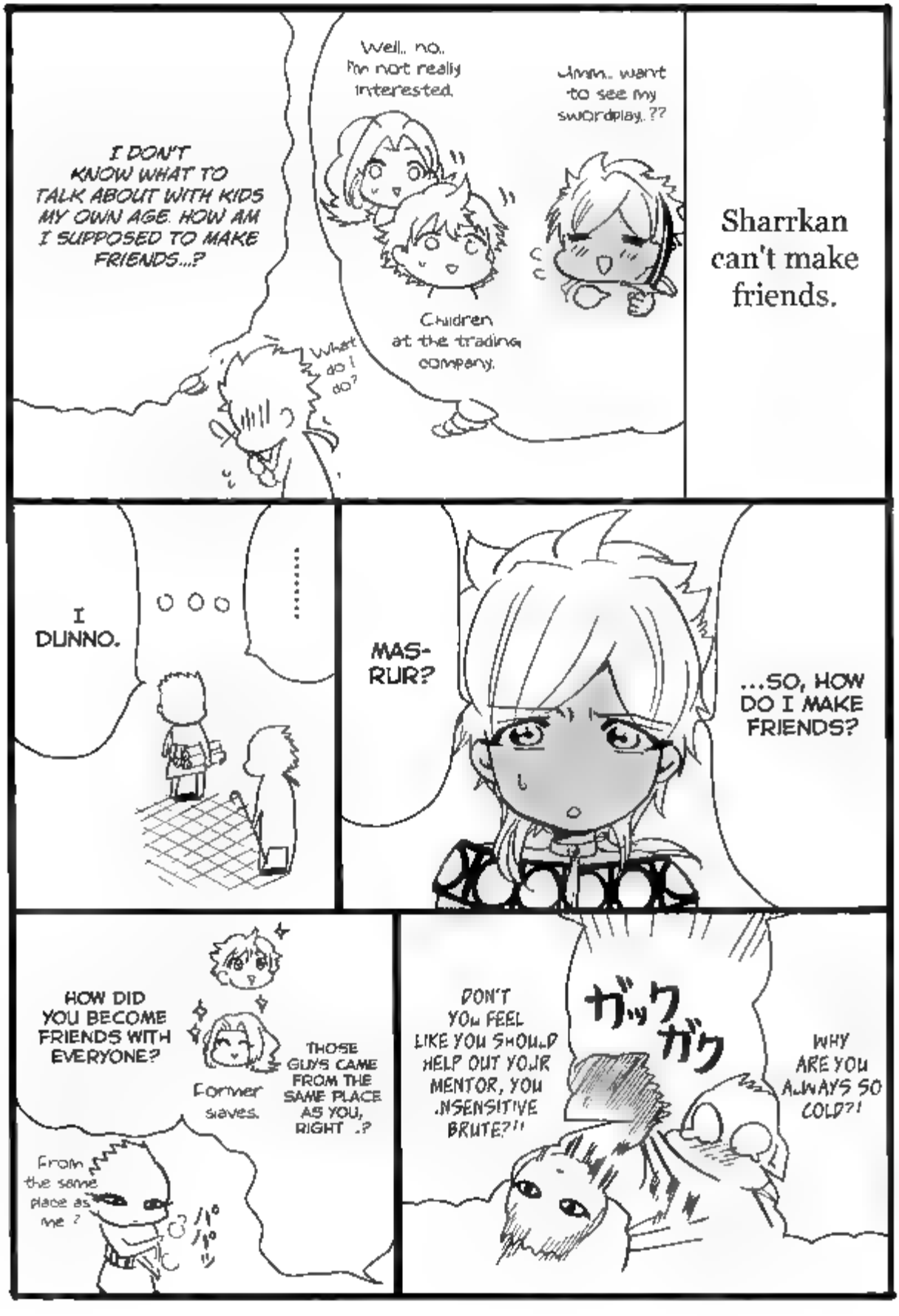

I WON'T.
DON'T FORGET THAT YOU'RE HERE AS PART OF MY ESCORT...

YOU MUST NOT REVEAL YOUR TRUE IDENTITY WHILE YOU'RE HERE.
SINBAD... YOU'RE A WANTED MAN IN THIS COUNTRY.



WE'VE BEEN AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL, KING RASHID.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME.
WELCOME... TO PARTHEVIA.


I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TALK ABOUT WITH KIDS MY OWN AGE. HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO MAKE FRIENDS...?
What do I do?
Well.. no.. I'm not really interested.
Ummm.. want to see my swordplay..??
Children at the trading company.
Sharrkan can't make friends.
I DUNNO.
.....
MAS-RUR?
...SO, HOW DO I MAKE FRIENDS?
HOW DID YOU BECOME FRIENDS WITH EVERYONE?
Former slaves.
THOSE GUYS CAME FROM THE SAME PLACE AS YOU, RIGHT ..?
From the same place as me ?
DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE YOU SHOULD HELP OUT YOUR MENTOR, YOU INSENSITIVE BRUTE?!!
ガックガク
WHY ARE YOU ALWAYS SO COLD?!

BECAUSE WE HAD TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH TOGETHER.
WELL... I WAS ABLE TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH THEM
ガウッ
We're friends.
FROM THE SAME PLACE AS ME FRIENDS... IS HE TALKING ABOUT THE ONES FROM THE COLOSSEUM?
HOW ELSE WOULD I?
THAT'S REALLY HOW YOU BECAME FRIENDS?
I THINK THAT STRENGTHENS THE BOND BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR OPPONENT.
WHEN YOU PUT YOUR LIVES ON THE LINE IN A FIGHT, YOU LEARN TO TRUST EACH OTHER...
THANKS, MASRUR!
HE MUST BE TALKING ABOUT THAT!!
BUT I HAVE HEARD STORIES... FOR EXAMPLE, I'VE HEARD THAT IN THE FAR EAST, FISTFIGHTING ON THE BEACH AT SUNSET IS A TRADITION THAT SOWS THE SEEDS OF FRIENDSHIP...

WHA...?
UMM... FRIO...!!
ゴゴゴゴ
チャッ
チャッ
ギッ
After this, he frantically apologized.
PLEASE BE MY FRIEND!!
... WEL...
... UMMM

EVEN THOUGH I'VE LEFT MY COUNTRY, I HAVE NOTHING TO TALK ABOUT. THERE'S NO WAY I CAN SUDDENLY EXPECT TO KNOW HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS. SIGH... WHAT DO I DO...? HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FACE FRIO AND THE OTHERS NOW...?

Tears

IT'S NO GOOD. THEY HATE ME. IT'S [redacted] FOR ME TO MAKE FRIENDS AFTER ALL...

Take 2

HUH?

WELL... WHY DON'T YOU JUST ACT LIKE TH S?

.....

うぅ~

I can't make friends. Wah!!!

...REALLY?

You've got a long way to go.

...BUT THAT'S JUST BECAUSE I'M TALK NG TO YOU. I CAN'T DO IT.

can only do this now because I'm your mentor

YOU'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING WEIRD... I TH NK YOU SHOULD TRY TALKING TO THEM LIKE THIS...

RIGHT NOW... YOU'RE JUST TALK NG NORMALLY, AREN'T YOU?

The End

YOU SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL IN PARTHEVIA...
WATCH OUT FOR THAT MAN.
THE MAN THAT STARTED THE COUP D'ÉTAT.
... SO THIS IS...

BARBAROSSA.
GENERAL OF THE PARTHEVIA EMPIRE...
121ST NIGHT: THAT MAN'S NAME IS...

クスッ

!

IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE BEEN CALLED THAT.
...MY APOLO-GIES.

... THAT'S RIGHT. YOU HAVEN'T HEARD.
.....?

What the hell??
LEADER
OF A POLITICAL PARTY??

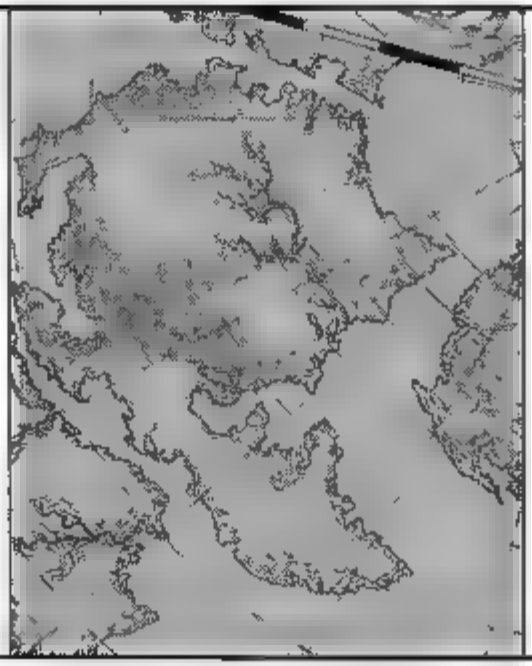
A "POLITICAL PARTY" IS
AN ORGANIZATION FORMED BY THOSE WHO SHARE COMMON POLITICAL VIEWS..
HAHA. I'M NOT SURPRISED YOU HAVEN'T HEARD OF IT.

AND IS NOW SERVING AS THE LEADER OF THE INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.
HE'S RETIRED FROM HIS MILITARY SERVICE

After the ceasefire, Parthevia's political structure changed greatly

IT'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEM FROM AN ABSOLUTE MONARCHY, WHERE A SINGLE KING RULES OVER ALL.
THE PARTY THAT IS CHOSEN BY POPULAR VOTE CONTROLS THE GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE.

and, on top of that, Reim and other foreign countries demanded reparations from Parthevia after the ceasefire treaty. This put Parthevian citizens into an uncomfortable position...



The Emperor suddenly died from illness, the Princess disappeared, a child prince was enthroned,

The deadlock between the countries was finally broken by the political changes set in motion by General Barbarossa.

Parthevia gave up its absolute monarchy and instead entrusted political power to its citizens, converting to a constitutional monarchy.

Due to this political reorganization, many political parties began to form in Parthevia,

and through elections, the country changed, allowing its citizens great influence over the government.

CALLING YOURSELF JUST AN AVERAGE CITIZEN IS BEYOND MODEST
THE LEADER OF THE PARTY IN POWER HAS TREMENDOUS INFLUENCE OVER THE GOVERNMENT
HAHA... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING LORD BARBAROSSA?
NOW, I'M MERELY ACTING AS A MEMBER OF THIS PARTY, SO I'M NOTHING MORE THAN AN AVERAGE CITIZEN.
YOUR PARTY, THE INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY, WON THE ELECTION BY A LANDSLIDE.
WE'RE A GROUP OF LIKE-MINDED ALLIES THAT CAME TOGETHER TO CHANGE OUR COUNTRY WITH OUR OWN HANDS.
THAT'S NOT TRUE... WE WON THE ELECTION THANKS TO ALL OF OUR PARTY MEMBERS.

THAT IS OUR AIM AS THE INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.

A PARTHEVIA EMPIRE FOR THE SAKE OF THE PARTHEVIAN PEOPLE...

I'D LIKE TO MEET THE MAN BES DE YOU... KING RASHID.

AREN'T YOU GOING TO INTRODUCE US?

BY THE WAY,

SINBAD.
DUNGEON CONQUEROR...
.....
...EVEN IF YOU DON'T TELL ME, I KNOW WHO HE IS.
... YOU'RE THAT MAN, AREN'T YOU?
RUMORS OF THAT MAN HAVE SPREAD WORLDWIDE
AS A FELLOW PARTHEVIAN,
I'M PROUD OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.
WAIT. DON'T PANIC.
I'M NO LONGER A SOLDIER.
I AM NOT INTERESTED IN CAPTURING YOU. ON THE CONTRARY

CONQUEROR OF MULTIPLE DUNGEONS, LEADER OF A FORMIDABLE TRADING COMPANY, AND AN EXTRAORDINARY HERO. .
THERE'S NO ONE WHO HASN'T HEARD OF YOUR ADVENTURES.
YOU'RE A SPECTACULAR PERSON
TO DRIVE SOMEONE AS ACCOMPLISHED AS YOU OUT OF YOUR HOME COUNTRY WOULD BE UNTHINKABLE.
I WELCOME YOU,
SINBAD.
.....
7" 7"

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AROUND THE CITY BEFORE WE GO THERE...??
THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR MORE DISCUSSION AT THE PALACE.
.....
WELL... KING RASHID.

IT'S OUR DUTY TO SERVE AS GOOD HOSTS TO ITS KING!
BALBADD IS OUR TOP TRADING PARTNER!
THE PARTY LEADERS WILL PERSONALLY SHOW US AROUND. ?
OF COURSE!

TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THE CURRENT STATE OF PARTHEVIA.
SINBAD, THIS IS YOUR CHANCE.
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR.
I SEE... IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL BE HAPPY TO ACCEPT.
THANKS TO BARBAROSSA'S COUP D'ÉTAT, WE WERE...
A PURGE? THERE'S TERRIBLE STUFF GOING ON IN THAT COUNTRY.
SEE THE TRUTH WITH YOUR OWN EYES, INSTEAD OF JUST LISTENING TO OTHERS.

MY GOAL IS STILL TO OBSERVE PARTHEVIA'S CURRENT CONDITIONS.
...THAT'S RIGHT I WAS THROWN OFF BY BARBAROSSA'S SUDDEN APPEARANCE, BUT...

What a crazy situation.
... WELCOME TO PARTHEVIA.

I'M JUST HERE TO DO WHAT I CAME TO DO...

ざわ
ざわ

SFX chatter, chatter

122ND NIGHT: PARTHEVIA EMPIRE

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HOW PARTHEVIA HAS CHANGED?
...RATIONING?
THIS IS ALL THANKS TO OUR FOOD RATIONING.
BUT LIFE IS STARTING TO RETURN TO OUR COUNTRY.
IT PROBABLY STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO COMPARED TO BALBADD,
YES. IT'S BECAUSE THE WAR IS OVER.
WHY IS THERE STILL A RATION IMPOSED...? THE WAR IS OVER NOW, ISN'T IT?
MANY OF OUR COUNTRY'S FIELDS WERE LAID TO WASTE DURING THE COURSE OF THE WAR AND IT'S BECOME DIFFICULT FOR US TO PRODUCE ENOUGH FOOD TO SUSTAIN OURSELVES.

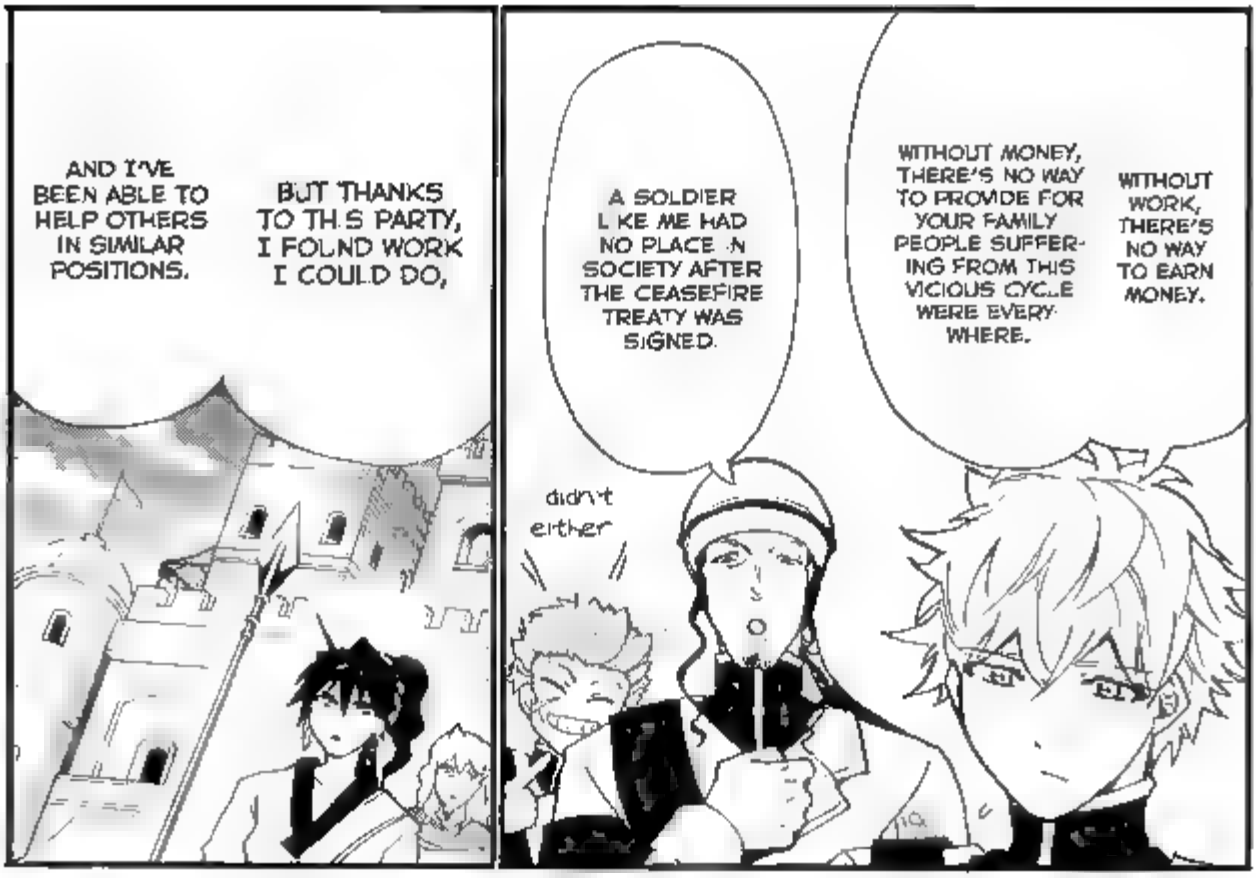
EACH CITIZEN RECEIVES A PORTION LARGE ENOUGH TO KEEP THEM FROM GOING HUNGRY.

SO WE DISTRIBUTE THOSE GOODS EVENLY AMONG THE CITIZENS.
AS A RESULT, WE MUST IMPORT A GREAT NUMBER OF GOODS,

MEDICAL TREATMENT, HOMES, AND EVEN JOBS TO THOSE IN NEED.
WE HELP PROVIDE
IN ADDITION TO FOOD,

AFTER THE WAR A GREAT NUMBER OF COUNTRYMEN WERE KILLED OR LEFT UNEMPLOYED.

THIS IS ALL THANKS TO THE ORDER ESTABLISHED BY OUR INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.
WE DIVIDE EVERYTHING SO THAT NO ONE HAS TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE.


AND I'VE BEEN ABLE TO HELP OTHERS IN SIMILAR POSITIONS.
BUT THANKS TO THIS PARTY, I FOUND WORK I COULD DO,
A SOLDIER LIKE ME HAD NO PLACE IN SOCIETY AFTER THE CEASEFIRE TREATY WAS SIGNED.
WITHOUT MONEY, THERE'S NO WAY TO PROVIDE FOR YOUR FAMILY PEOPLE SUFFERING FROM THIS VICIOUS CYCLE WERE EVERYWHERE.
WITHOUT WORK, THERE'S NO WAY TO EARN MONEY.
didn't either

AS PARTY MEMBERS, WE ALL SHARE THE SAME SPIRIT!
SOLDIERS, NOBLES, COMMONERS.
AFTER ALL, WE'RE DIFFERENT FROM THE MONARCHY THAT STARTED THE WARS!
WE SHOULD TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR SAVING OUR OWN CITIZENS.

PARTY LEADER!
PARTY LEADER BARBA-ROSSA.
ざわ
ざわざわ

WE'LL SUPPORT YOU IN THE NEXT ELECTION!!
ワー!!

MY SON JUST BECAME A MEMBER OF YOUR PARTY.
Introduce yourself to Party Leader Barbarossa

THANK YOU FOR OUR RATIONS TODAY.
THANKS TO THE IN-DEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.
WE'RE ABLE TO LIVE ON LIKE THIS.

CREATING A PARTHEVIA EMPIRE FOR THE SAKE OF THE PARTHEVIAN PEOPLE .. THAT'S AN IDEAL I CAN GET BEHIND!!
HE PORED OVER YOUR BOOK!!
I I WAS SO MOVED BY YOUR SPEECH THE OTHER DAY THAT I VOLUNTEERED AS A PARTY MEMBER!
P... PARTY LEADER BARBA-ROSSA!!
ブルブル...
LET'S CREATE A BETTER COUNTRY TOGETHER...!! I HAVE GREAT EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUR CONTRIBU-TIONS.
WE WELCOME YOU AS A COMRADE.
ガシッ

LONG LIVE THE INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY!!
LONG LIVE PARTY LEADER BARBA-ROSSA!
TH... THANK YOU!!
!!
HOO RAY!
HOO RAY!

HE TOOK THE PEOPLE'S FEELINGS INTO SHREWD CONSIDERATION,
HE REALLY UNDERSTANDS HOW POLITICS WORKS.
NOT MANY PEOPLE HIS AGE CAN ACCOMPLISH SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
ALLIED HIMSELF WITH PUBLIC OPINION, AND EXPANDED HIS POLITICAL PARTY.
...WHAT DO YOU THINK? IT'S PRETTY AMAZING.
THE PROOF IS RIGHT THERE.
THAT'S THE MARK OF A MEMBER OF BARBAROSSA'S INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.
THEY'RE ALL WEARING THE SAME COLORED ARM BAND.

ALMOST EVERYONE... IS A PARTY SUPPORTER?

JUST LOOK AT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WEARING IT.

ALL OF THE PARTY SUPPORTERS ALSO WEAR SOMETHING OF THAT COLOR.

ALL OF THIS .S SOMETHING... HE HAS ACCUMULATED IN ONLY A SHORT AMOUNT OF TIME. THAT'S THE K ND OF MAN LORD BARBAROSSA .S.

NOW YOU CAN SEE JUST HOW MUCH INFLUENCE HE HAS, CAN'T YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT.

...THAT'S WHAT I THINK.

THE ONES WHO ARE TRULY AMAZING ARE YOU MERCHANTS.

can't create anything or sell it to the people

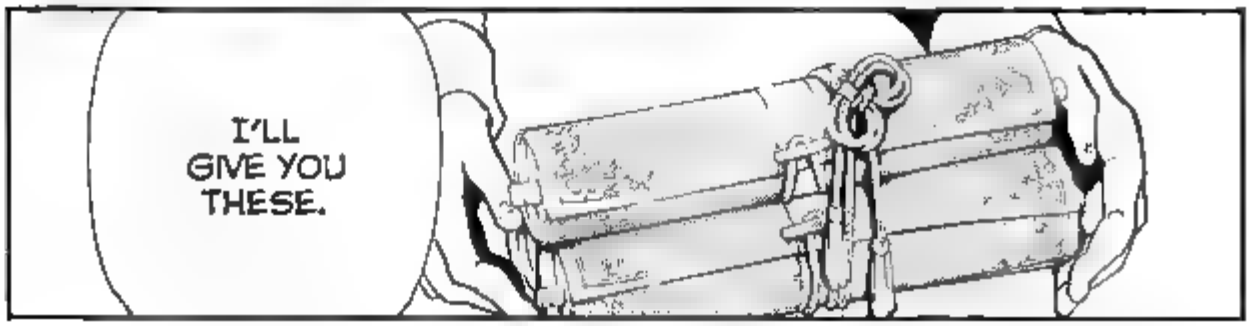
I'M JUST GOOD AT RHETOR C. I CAN'T EVEN BEGIN TO INFLUENCE ECONOMICS THE WAY YOU DO.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, KING RASHID?

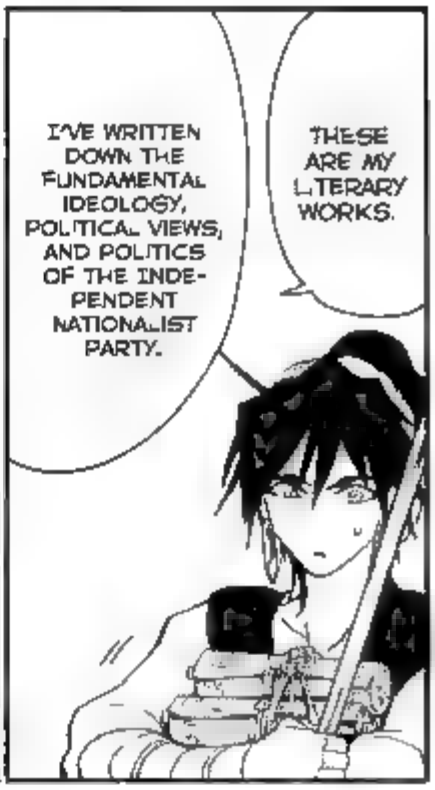
... I DON'T THINK SO...
AFTER ALL, MERCHANTS CAN'T DO ANYTHING BESIDES TRADE THEIR GOODS.
IF YOU WANT TO REGULATE LAWS AND BE ABLE TO CHANGE THE LIVES OF YOUR COUNTRY'S CITIZENS...
BEING A MERCHANT IS NOT ENOUGH.

... WHAT AN HONOR. IF THAT'S THE CASE...

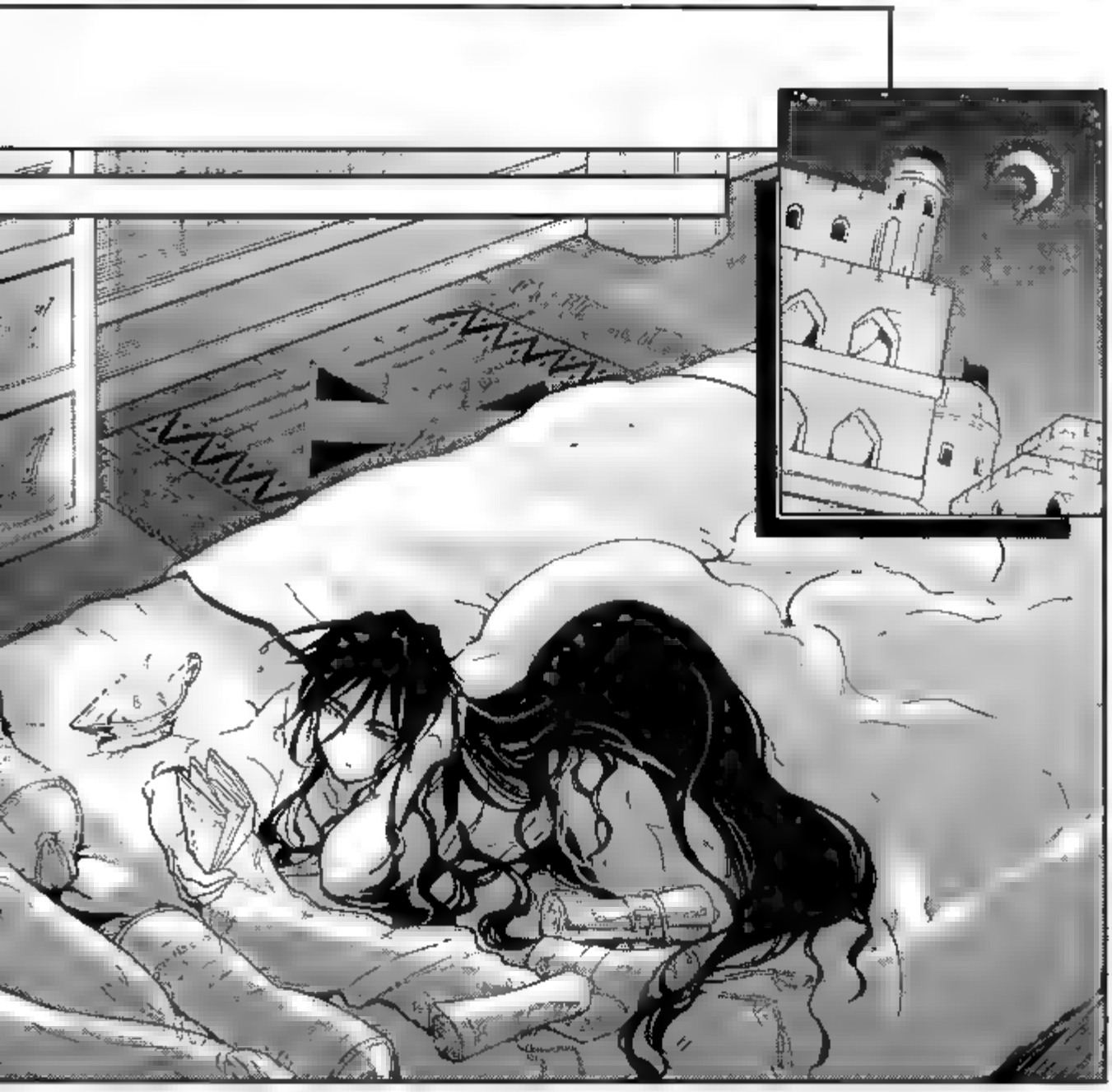
I...
WANT TO LEARN HOW TO GOVERN LIKE YOU.


I'LL GIVE YOU THESE.

THEY MIGHT BE A LITTLE DRY COMPARED TO TALES OF YOUR ADVENTURES.
... ALTHOUGH,


I'VE WRITTEN DOWN THE FUNDAMENTAL IDEOLOGY, POLITICAL VIEWS, AND POLITICS OF THE INDEPENDENT NATIONALIST PARTY.
THESE ARE MY LITERARY WORKS.

I'LL COME BACK TO GET YOU THEN.
PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME UNTIL WE CONTINUE OUR CONVERSATION TOMORROW.

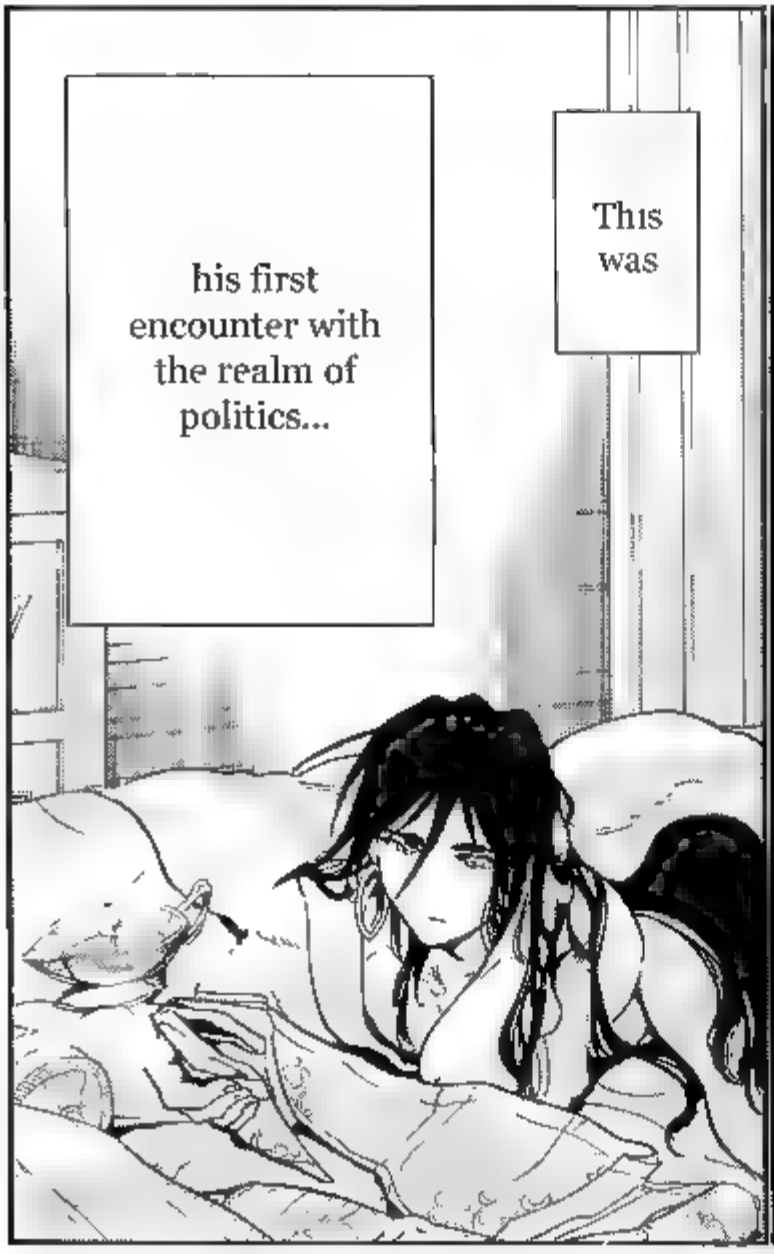


HE'S DONE WELL.
TO COMPILE ALL OF THIS IN A BOOK OF PROPAGANDA AND THEN PUT IT INTO PRACTICE...

AMAZING.
ALL OF HIS KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PARTY POLITICS IS RECORDED HERE...

DESPITE BEING UNRELATED TO THE ROYAL FAMILY, THAT MAN WAS ABLE TO UNIFY THE COUNTRY TO THIS EXTENT. SO...
BARBAROSSA...

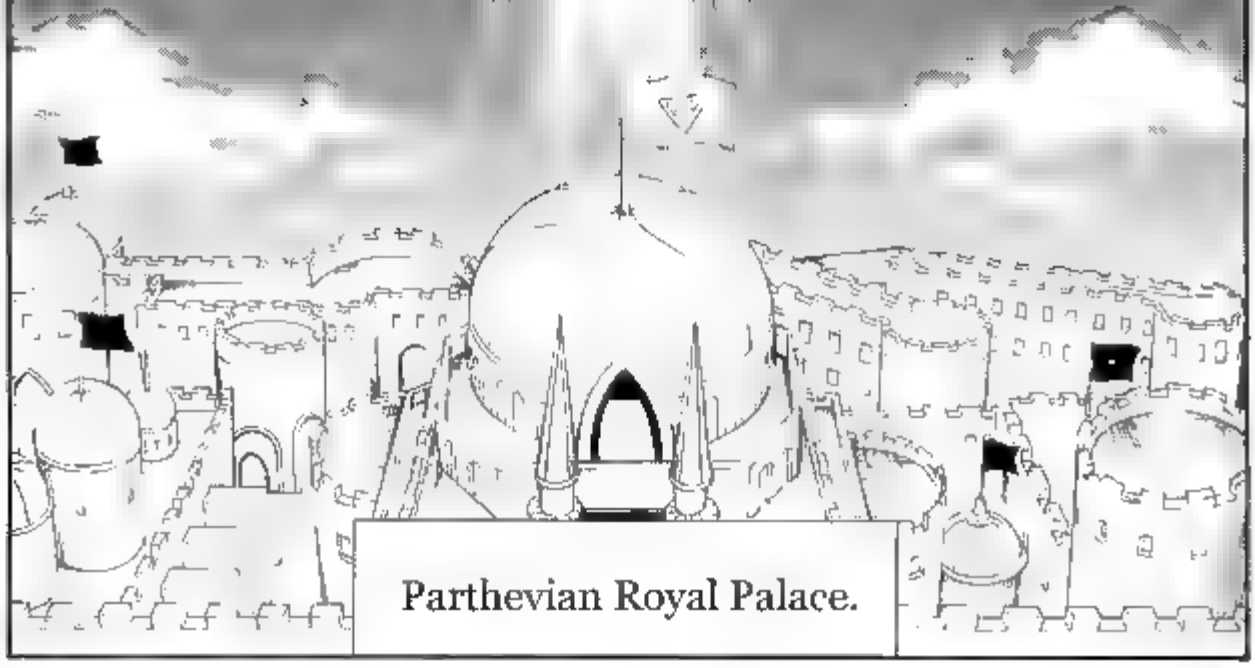
IS "BLOOD" STILL WHAT'S REALLY NECESSARY TO BECOME A KING...?



Political Parties. Popular will.

Elections.

For Sinbad, who thought of absolute monarchy as a matter of course, these were strange new ideas.


Parthevian Royal Palace.

木木……
NIGHT 123: THE LITTLE EMPEROR

I'VE BROUGHT KING RASHID,

YOUR HIGHNESS.

Parthevia Empire, 32nd Emperor
Ceylan Dikumenowlz Du Parthevia

CELENDINE'S .. I MEAN, THE PRINCESS'S BROTHER WAS ENTHRONED...?

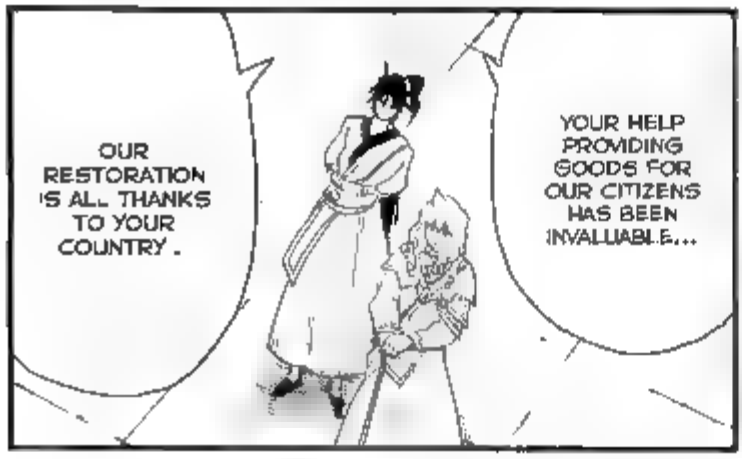
THAT'S RIGHT . THE PREVIOUS KING DIED FROM HIS ILLNESS, AND THE PRINCESS WENT MISSING.

NOW, THE ONLY REMAIN NG HEIR TO THE THRONE IS LORD CEYLAN.

HAD PRINCE CEYLAN INHERITED THE THRONE, OUR COUNTRY WOULD HAVE BEEN THROWN INTO CHAOS.
THIS MAY SEEM UNFAIR, BUT IT'S ALL FOR HIS MAJESTY'S PROTECTION.
IN THE CURRENT SYSTEM, ALL POLITICAL POWER RESTS WITH CONGRESS.
BUT HE HAS NO REAL POWER.
THE WAY PARTHEVIA IS NOW.
THAT'S THE REALITY OF PARTHEVIA'S CURRENT MONARCHY.
NO REAL POWER... A SYMBOLIC "EMPEROR"...
IF WE WERE UNABLE TO MAINTAIN PEACE WITHIN OUR OWN COUNTRY, THEN THE TRUCE WE AGREED TO WOULD'VE BE MEANINGLESS
THAT'S WHY OUR POLITICAL PARTIES NOW ACT AS THE GOVERNMENT WHILE H S MAJESTY SUPPORTS US. THAT IS

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME, HASN'T IT, PRINCE CEYLAN.
... NO, I SUPPOSE IT'S KING CEYLAN NOW.
You've grown into a fine young man

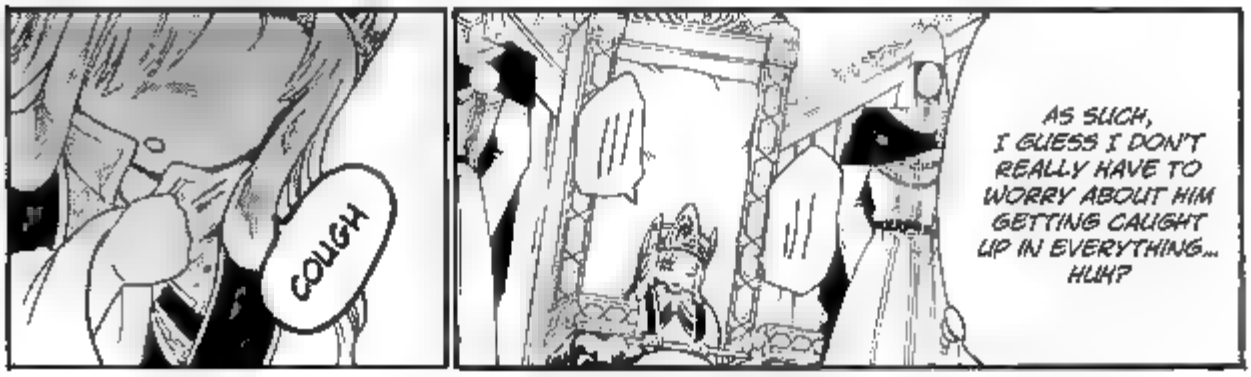
THIS SITUATION IS...
TOO MUCH.....


OUR RESTORATION IS ALL THANKS TO YOUR COUNTRY.
YOUR HELP PROVIDING GOODS FOR OUR CITIZENS HAS BEEN INVALUABLE...

..... KING RASHID, YOU ALSO LOOK WELL.

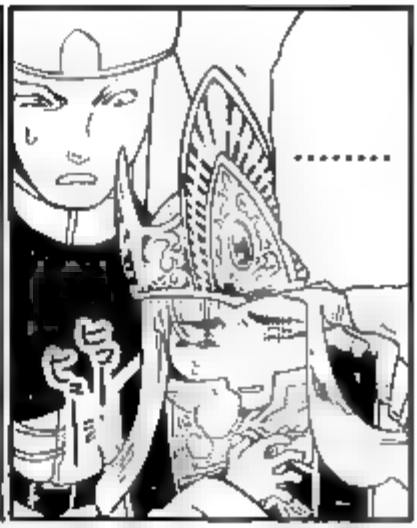
.....HUH?

BUT HERE, IT'S THE POLITICAL PARTIES THAT COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER FOR POPULARITY...
...I SEE. IN HELIOHAPT, THE TWO FACTIONS FOUGHT TO SECURE POLITICAL POWER ON THE THRONE,
HE SEEMS UNEXPECTEDLY COMPOSED .....?


COUGH
AS SUCH, I GUESS I DON'T REALLY HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HIM GETTING CAUGHT UP IN EVERYTHING... HUH?

LORD CEYLAN?!
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH
COUGH

YES, SIR!
WE'LL HAVE TO PUT OUR DISCUSSION ON HOLD. TAKE HIM TO THE DOCTOR.


.....

THAT'S FINE.
My deepest apologies, but
TO PREVENT WORSENING HIS MAJESTY'S CONDITION, WE'LL STOP HERE FOR TODAY..

KING RASHID.

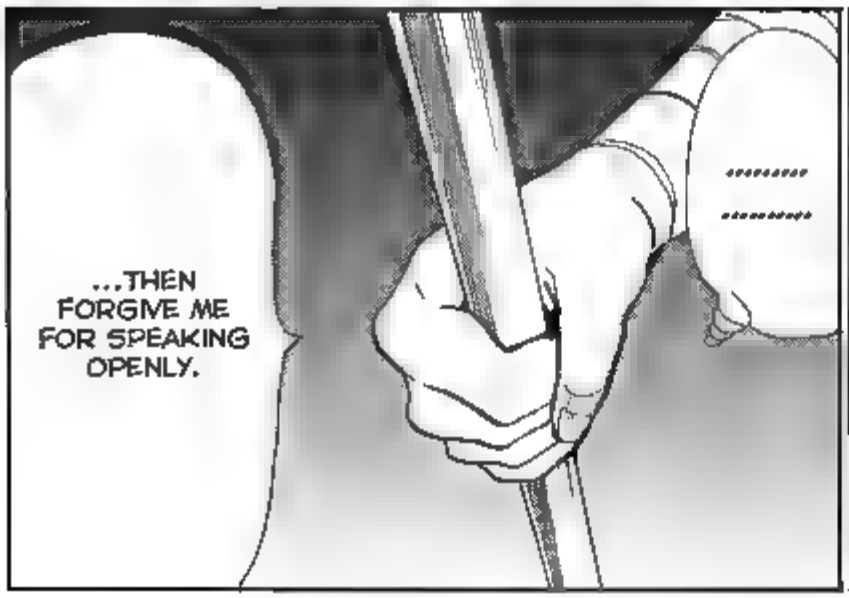
NO, IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.....
I'M SORRY WE SEEM TO HAVE OVER-STAYED OUR WELCOME.

THAT WOMAN... I'M SURE...

SHE'S THE MAGICIAN
FALAN ...!!
WE MUSTN'T MAKE HIM PUSH HIMSELF. LET HIM REST FOR A WHILE.
.. ..HMM.
I HAD HEARD HE WAS SICKLY LIKE HIS LATE FATHER, BUT. .
.....

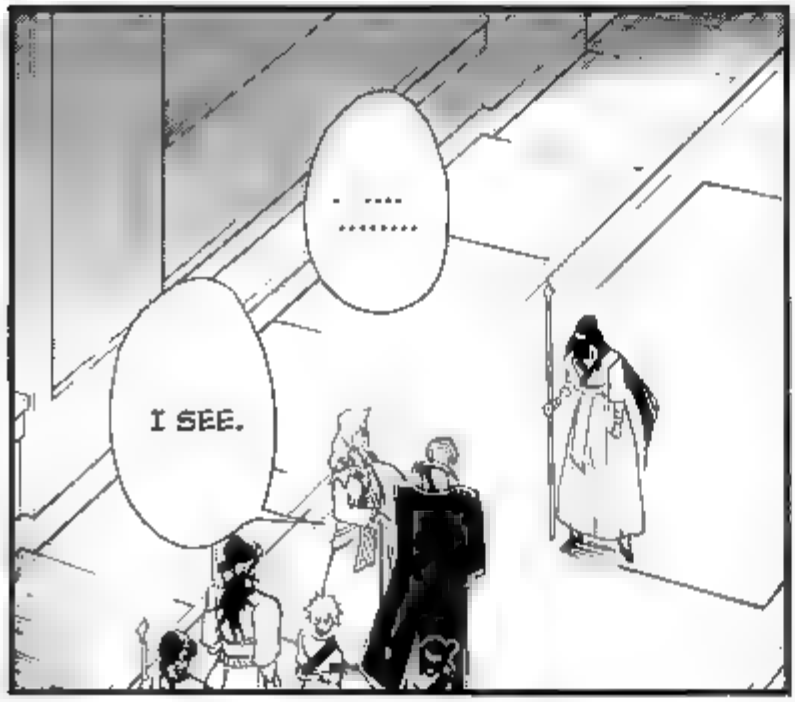
WHAT DID YOU THINK OF PARTHEVIA?

...SO WHY THE LONG FACE?
YOU ALSO MET WITH HIS MAJESTY, SO YOU'VE SEEN PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING THERE IS TO SEE IN THIS COUNTRY.
YOU WERE SHOWN AROUND THE CITY, AND YOU SAW OUR NEW POLITICAL SYSTEM.


.....
.....
...THEN FORGIVE ME FOR SPEAKING OPENLY.

THERE'S STILL SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU, ISN'T THERE?

COMPARED TO WARTIME, GOODS HAVE GROWN BOUNTIFUL.
IT'S TRUE THAT CONDITIONS HERE HAVE IMPROVED...
I
STILL DON'T COMPLETELY TRUST YOU.
AND YET,
SMILES HAVE RETURNED TO THE PEOPLE'S FACES...
THE ABSOLUTE MONARCHY'S TYRANNICAL RULE HAS ENDED, AND NATIONAL POLITICS HAS BEEN ENTRUSTED TO PARTHEVIA'S CITIZENS.
THE MAGICIAN FALAN WHO TRIED TO KILL US... AND THEN THERE'S YOU.
THAT MAGICIAN IS STILL HERE IN THE PALACE...


. ....
.....
I SEE.

MY APOLOGIES.
SO THE DOUBTS I'VE HARBORED ABOUT THIS COUNTRY STILL HAVEN'T BEEN ERASED.

OF COURSE. I'LL CANCEL IT.
HUH?!

YES, SIR!
... DAIRU. TELL ME, WHAT ARE TODAY'S PLANS?

THEN, IN THE EVENING, YOU'RE TO ATTEND A PARTY AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS..
AFTER THIS, WE'RE HEADED TO GREET THE ELECTION COMMITTEE.
THIS AFTERNOON, YOU'RE SCHEDULED TO GIVE YOUR SPEECH AS THE PARTY LEADER AT THE CENTRAL AUDITORIUM.
CANCEL IT ALL.

KING RASHID, WOULD YOU MIND IF I BORROWED HIM FOR A WHILE?
HM?
HUUUH ?!!
THIS IS YOUR CHANCE .....
WE CAN TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW.
..SURE.

I HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE.

OUR SHIP HOME DOESN'T DEPART FOR ANOTHER THREE DAYS... SO YOU SHOULD GO.
AFTER THIS, I'LL BE BUSY WITH NEGOTIATIONS, SO I WON'T HAVE TIME FOR MUCH ELSE.
IT'S A GOOD OPPORTUNITY, ISN'T IT, SINBAD?

USE THIS TIME TO FIND YOUR ANSWERS.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE... WE CAN TALK ABOUT EVERY-THING YOU WANT TO KNOW

... UMM...

DOING?
WHAT ARE WE

AAAAAH!!! WHAT AM I DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?!
... ...NO, NOT REALLY.

DO YOU DISLIKE HORSES?
HORSE RIDING, OF COURSE.

NIGHT 124: TIME FOR FUN

Parthevia

Outskirts of the Capital City

NICE VIEW, ISN'T IT?

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pant pant

WHEN I THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE SHOULD DISCUSS. TO BE FRANK, TALKING ABOUT HORSE RIDING SEEMS...
... YES. I'M NOT SATISF ED.
NO... IT'S NOT THAT...
WHAT? YOU'RE NOT SATISFIED?
I SEE... YOU'RE STILL FIXATED ON THAT.
....
DISAPPOINTING.
!!
THAT HAPPENED BECAUSE WE WERE ENEMIES AT THE TIME.
IT'S STILL BOTHERING YOU THAT I USED THAT MAGICIAN TO TRY TO KILL YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS, ISN'T IT?

THAT'S WHY I INSTRUCTED FALAN TO KILL YOU ALL.
I WAS ALSO GIVEN ORDERS FROM THE IMPERIAL ARMY TO PUNISH MY YOUNGER BROTHER FOR HIS FAILURE.
YOU WERE A FELON WHO OUTWITTED THE IMPERIAL ARMY AND DISGRACED OUR PRINCESS.

THAT'S IT...?
IT WAS NOTHING MORE OR LESS THAN THAT. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO SAY ABOUT IT.
I WAS ONLY BEING FAITHFUL IN THE EXECUTION OF MY PROFESSIONAL DUTIES.

I AM.
IT SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE SAYING THAT WE'RE NO LONGER ENEMIES.

..... THIS MAN...
THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST.
JUST LIKE I SAID BEFORE, I'M NO LONGER A SOLDIER. THERE'S NO LONGER ANY REASON FOR US TO BE RIVALS.

HE'S NOT SWAYED BY HIS EMOTIONS AT ALL. IT'S GOOD TO BE LOGICAL ABOUT THINGS, BUT ISN'T THIS A LITTLE TOO MUCH.....?
HE REALLY DOESN'T CARE EITHER WAY. NO, IT'S MORE LIKE HE ISN'T INTERESTED...

THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT TALK.
グイッ
FOLLOW ME.
HUH?!
WHAT? YOU'RE THE ADVENTURER OF THE SEVEN SEAS, AND YOU CAN'T EVEN RIDE A HORSE?
ピピピ

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パカラ
ハハハッ
パカラ

WHAT,
YOU REALLY CAN'T RIDE, CAN YOU, SINBAD?

UWAH!
AH
ズッゴーン

AS A MERCHANT, I ONLY USE HORSES TO TRANSPORT GOODS.
...DAMN IT...

I'M GLAD YOU WEREN'T BADLY INJURED.
IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO RIDE A HORSE, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SO.

EVEN IF YOU THINK YOU'RE FINE, I CAN'T HELP BUT WORRY.
LETTING A GUEST LIKE YOU GET INJURED WILL HURT MY CREDIBILITY
THIS IS A BIT MUCH, ISN'T IT... ?

YOU DON'T NEED MY PERMISSION. ASK ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO ASK.
UMMM... THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU..
HE'S DEFINITELY CONFIDENT...
.....
.....

YOU SAID EARLIER
THAT US BEING EN-EMIES WAS ALL IN THE PAST.
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY ARE YOU SO CONCERNED ABOUT ME NOW?
IN YOUR CURRENT POSITION, THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO TAKE AN INTEREST IN ME, IS THERE?

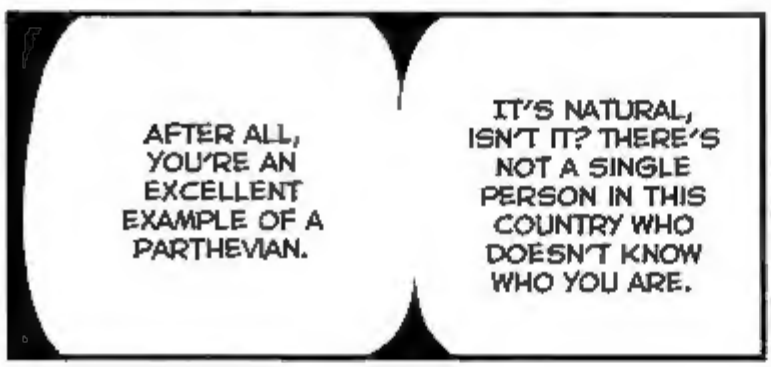
YOU COULD HAVE JUST IGNORED ME AND LET ME PASS BY AS NOTHING MORE THAN ONE OF KING RASHID'S GUARDS.
BUT THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU DID.
AND YOU'VE EVEN TAKEN ALL THIS TIME TO BRING ME OUT HERE.....

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO WOULD DO ALL OF THIS FOR NO REASON.
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH?

I'M INTERESTED IN YOU.

...OH, SO THAT'S WHAT'S BOTHERING YOU.
THAT'S SIMPLE.

HUH?!!
.....
.....

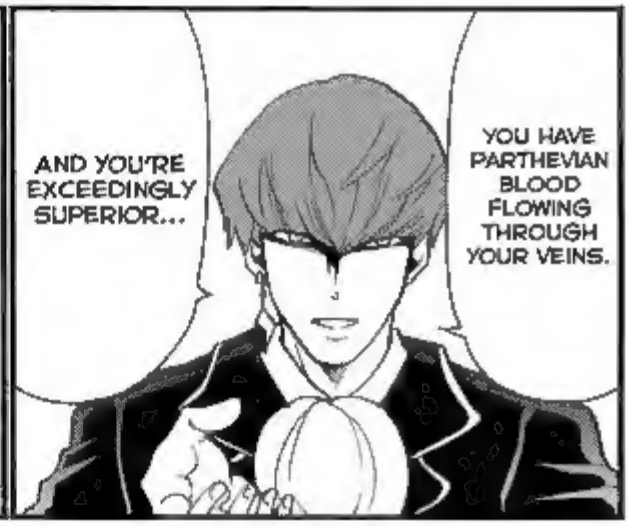

AFTER ALL, YOU'RE AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF A PARTHEVIAN.
IT'S NATURAL, ISN'T IT? THERE'S NOT A SINGLE PERSON IN THIS COUNTRY WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

SINBAD, I...
BELIEVE THAT PARTHEVIANS ARE THE MOST SUPERIOR RACE IN THE WORLD.

AN EXCELLENT... PARTHEVIAN?

THAT MUST BE DUE TO THE FACT THAT PARTHEVIANS ARE NATURALLY A MORE SUPERIOR RACE.
WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE RESOURCES OF REIM AND BALBADD, PARTHEVIA'S LAND IS BARREN IN COMPARISON, YET OUR PEOPLE HAVE DEVELOPED A GREAT EMPIRE ON THAT LAND.

YOU'RE CLEVER, WISE, AND OVERFLOWING WITH STRENGTH.
YOU'RE AN IDEAL PARTHEVIAN.


AND YOU'RE EXCEEDINGLY SUPERIOR...
YOU HAVE PARTHEVIAN BLOOD FLOWING THROUGH YOUR VEINS.

ARE SOMEONE SPECIAL?
THAT YOU

THE OUTCOME IS JUST AS YOU CAN SEE. YOUR FAME SHOWS EVERYONE JUST HOW EXCEPTIONAL A PERSON YOU ARE.
BESIDES... HAVEN'T YOU FELT IT YOURSELF?

ISN'T IT NATURAL FOR ME TO WANT TO DEEPEN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH YOU?
YOU ARE SPECIAL.

!!
ガタッ
THERE'S NOTHING STRANGE ABOUT THAT. IT'S THE TRUTH.

SO, SINBAD...
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOU.

BECOME FRIENDS WITH ME?
WON'T YOU